

Hafa Adai!

Palacios wants Torres to rescind support of marine sanctuary. **PAGE 2**
Lawsuit vs ex-Tinian mayor, *Tribune* dismissed. **PAGE 6**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 12

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18, 2017

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75¢

Board gains control of CHCC

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed into law on Saturday two measures, including one that sets up a governing board for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., before leaving for Washington, D.C. to attend the inauguration of President-elect Donald J. Trump.

See BOARD on Page 4

Rookie cop allegedly beats up cop wife

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A rookie police officer was arrested for allegedly beating up his wife, who is also a police officer, inside their car along Beach Road in Supe on Friday night.

Ramon Saures Kaipat, 38, who is assigned at the Kagman police sub-

» **Some question how suspect was able to join DPS despite conviction, TROs, other cases**

station, was arrested for assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

The victim, who is an evidence custodian at the Department of Public Safety, was injured and was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center.

At yesterday's bail hearing, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho raised the \$3,000 bail the court had earlier imposed on Kaipat to \$20,000, citing Kaipat's three temporary restraining orders,

See ROOKIE on Page 4

A YEAR AND A HALF AFTER SOUDELOR

CARE: 307 families still without safe homes

▲ **MARK RABAGO**
Commonwealth Advocates for Recovery Efforts presented its 2016 Impact Report during its annual meeting yesterday at the Governor's Office conference room.

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A total of 307 families on Saipan are still without safe and sustainable housing, nearly a year and a half after Super Typhoon Soudelor devastated the islands, according to the non-profit group Commonwealth Advocates for Recovery Efforts.

That roughly equates to more than 1,000 individuals, according to CARE director Jenny Hegland, and most are spread throughout the villages of Saipan.

"It's really all over the island. What we found is the damage is equally spread. The most damage were in Kagman and Dandan be-

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INSIDE



BUSINESS

The eight who own as much as half of the rest of the planet are all men.

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NATION

Hundreds of thousands are expected to clog the capital for Donald Trump's inauguration.

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LIFE & STYLE

Coolstays.com puts together a bucket list Top 10 for 2017.

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Local

Palacios wants Torres to rescind support of marine sanctuary

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), who is currently the acting governor of the CNMI, opposes a proposal to overlay the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument with another protected designation—this time as a marine sanctuary—and wants Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to rescind his letter supporting the move.

“I’ve avoided talking publicly about it because after talking with the governor I found out late that he’s supporting this. But I have a totally different perspective...I want the governor to rescind his letter supporting the designation of the Marianas Trench Marine Monument into a marine sanctuary,” he said yesterday on Capitol Hill.

“So what is that going to improve? Why is the marine monument, with supposedly all its restriction for conservation, can transpose to a better situation by making it and

calling it now a marine sanctuary? What’s the difference?” he asked.

Palacios, who used to be a Lands and Natural Resources secretary and worked for years at the Division of Fish and Wildlife, said the Marianas Trench’s marine sanctuary designation would only build on what the marine monument designation successfully did to the people of the Marianas, which further restricted their rights to fish in the area, among others.

“What’s going to happen is the new proposal expands the boundary of the original monument. The island units will supposedly go all the way up to the 200-mile zone boundary instead of 50 miles. Right now, with the monument in the open oceanic areas you can still fish for pelagic fishes—migratory species like tuna in the water column. If the sanctuary kicks in, it proposes that we will no longer be able fish within the water column. So what is it are we trying to do here other than put restrictions and boundaries



Champagne Vent of the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument. Image courtesy of NOAA.

and expand these boundaries and call it now a marine sanctuary.”

Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) wrote to President Barack

Obama in September 2016 requesting that the government start the sanctuaries process for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument through the Sanctuaries Pro-

gram of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

According to the Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy project, becoming a national marine

sanctuary would provide the monument with a more robust conservation and management profile as well as bring more resources for education and community engagement in the Northern Mariana Islands.

It said the CNMI Legislature has written to the President in support of the governor and the delegate’s request, as has nearly every other elected official in the Commonwealth.

Last month, Marianas Conservation member John Gourley wrote to Obama to dissuade the outgoing president from designating the Mariana Trench as a marine sanctuary on top of being a national monument.

In his letter Gourley said once the Mariana Trench is declared a marine sanctuary on top of being a marine national monument, it will require those who wish to fish or mine in the area to obtain permission from the federal government twice—one for the trench being a national monument and another for the trench being a marine sanctuary.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Northern Marianas College Alumni Association’s newly elected president Jack Kiyoshi, back row, fifth from left, poses with members of the alumni association and NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, center, front.

NMC Alumni Association reestablished

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College reestablished its alumni association last Jan. 13 when graduates of the CNMI’s lone college met to elect a fresh set of officers.

NMC president Dr. Car-

men Fernandez said at the meeting that the alumni association, officially called Northern Marianas College Alumni Association, was one of her main priorities.

“The organization plays a very important function in the overall mission of the college, and we are glad that

plans are underway for a number of activities that will engage our graduates both on island and those who are living in other parts of the world,” Fernandez said.

The NMCAA has been dormant since 2009.

The meeting was called to allow members of the associa-

tion to elect officials: Jack Kiyoshi as NMCAA president, Jesse Deleon Guerrero as vice president, Timberly Ngewakl as treasurer, and Christina Cruz as secretary.

Kiyoshi said he is excited to work with the new officers and others who are committed to rebuild the alumni as-

sociation.

“We will be organizing our first social event, which will be held in February,” Kiyoshi said.

He plans to add perks for being a member of the reestablished NMCAA, such as discounts and special offers exclusive to NMC alumnus.

Kiyoshi also wants to create a membership card for NMC alumni that would allow them

to benefit from discounts and special offers from business establishments on the island.

Kiyoshi encouraged all NMC graduates or those who have earned at least 24 NMC credits to join the association.

NMCAA is an association established in 2008 and is made up of both alumnus of the college and students that have earned at least 24 units in the college.

Woodruff: 'Attack' has no legal, factual basis

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Attorney Stephen Woodruff accused a U.S. Department of Justice lawyer of attacking him solely because "it is impossible for her" to win a case he represents based on its merits.

Kimberly Helvey, senior litigation counsel of the DOJ's Office of Immigration Litigation District Court Section, has filed a motion that seeks to have Woodruff disqualified from a case.

Helvey is counsel for U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson and co-respondents in Amalia Abo Guanlao's lawsuit.

Helvey said that Woodruff was disbarred by the CNMI Supreme Court in 2013 and lacks a law license in another state or territory. She also disclosed that Woodruff had never notified the district court that the U.S. Supreme Court had suspended him from practice before it.

Helvey pointed out that on Oct. 11, 2016, before the U.S. Supreme Court suspended Woodruff or more than a month before the filing of Guanlao's second amended petition, the Hawaii Supreme Court issued a reciprocal discipline disbaring Woodruff.

When asked for comments

about the motion for disqualification, Woodruff said Helvey is "trying to derail the case with a delaying tactic" that would deprive Guanlao of her right to a counsel of her choice.

"She is trying to achieve through the back door what she could not do through the front door with her previous motion," he said.

Woodruff believes that Helvey's motion are violations of the rules of professional conduct and are sanctionable under Rule 11.

Woodruff said Helvey is trying to do through a disqualification motion what she failed to do with her motion to strike Guanlao's second amended petition.

He said the motion to disqualify is barred by the same case law as the previous motion was.

Moreover, Woodruff said, there is no legitimate legal or factual basis for the disqualification motion.

He said the arguments that the DOJ litigator makes are not a proper basis under the law for disqualification of an attorney.

"Generally, disqualification of counsel is available only in cases of conflict of interest or conduct detrimental to the interests of justice in or directly

related to the immediate proceeding," Woodruff said.

Woodruff said having lost her previous "frivolous motion," Helvey is forced to concede that he is duly authorized to practice in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

"That fact really is the end of the inquiry, as she does not allege, and cannot, any conduct in or related to Ms. Guanlao's case that could be considered detrimental to the interests of justice (except her own conduct)," the lawyer said.

Woodruff described Helvey's arguments as "distorted and completely irrelevant."

He said he could make detailed responses to Helvey's contentions about Hawaii and the U.S. Supreme Court, but they are irrelevant to anything except in those courts.

Woodruff said the U.S. Supreme Court action is a procedural suspension (by the clerk, not the justices), pursuant to the rules of that court, while that court undertakes the kind of review required by the Constitution of every court.

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"It is not substantive in any sense," he pointed out.

For its part, Woodruff said, the Hawaii court, inexplicably and erroneously imposed reciprocal disbarment based on the CNMI action.

"It was not an independent disciplinary action," said Woodruff, adding that the peculiar error of the Hawaii Supreme Court is being addressed in due course.

Woodruff noted that he has never been engaged in active practice in Hawaii.

Guanlao, a Filipino mother who has been in the CNMI

for 23 years now, has two minor U.S. citizen children but was deemed by the U.S. Immigration as removable from the CNMI.

Aside from Johnson, Guanlao is suing U.S. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement supervisory detention and deportation officer Gerald Zedde, DHS Enforcement and Removal Operations acting supervisor M. Samaniego, ICE immigration officer G. Andersen, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services district director David

Gulick, USCIS/DHS Guam/CNMI field office director Stephen P. Green, USCIS/DHS Guam/CNMI acting field office director Irene Adame, USCIS/DHS California Service Center directors Rosemary Langley Melville and Kathy A. Baran, and USCIS/DHS California Service Center acting director Donna P. Campagnolo.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has stayed pending further court's order the removal of Guanlao while the court hears her petition on the merits.



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Illegal fishing reported on Forbidden Island

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

A report to a lawmaker claims a Korean tour group has been doing illegal fishing practices in one of Saipan's major tourist attractions.

Reports to Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan) claims that LaVista Tours has been conducting illegal fishing practices several times in the Forbidden Island Marine Sanctuary area.

LaVista Tours is a Korean-owned tour group in Chalan

Piao that has been offering tour packages around the island.

A video and some photos have been posted on social media, showing people (unclear whether tourists or not), with one holding what appears to be a speargun in his hands

while in the water. The video shows a man equipped with the same object as he gets out of the water.

The people in the video were wearing red life vests with "LAVISTA TOUR" clearly written on the back.

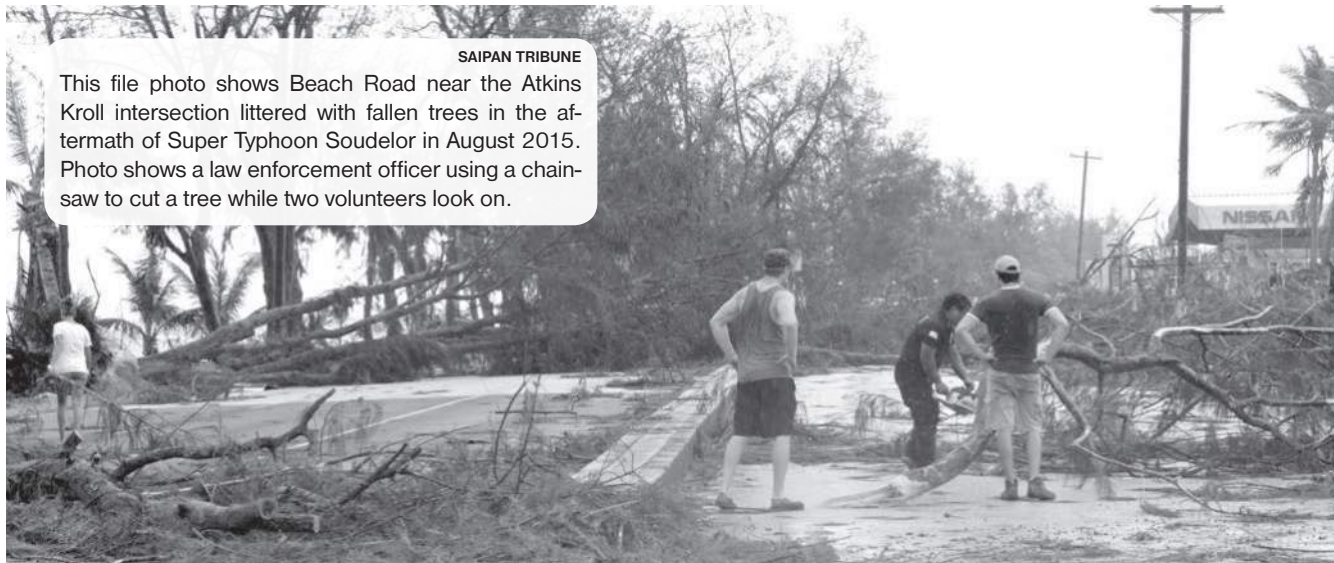
Saipan Tribune visited the tour group company, which denied the allegations.

"We don't know. It is not part of our tour offers. We don't know and we are suffering a lot because of these people spearfishing under the LaVista name," said Sandy Cheung of LaVista Tour.

"We just heard of this news today, we know nothing. We only arrange tours for sightseeing and hiking in the Forbidden Island area, but no spearfishing," added Cheung.

Propst reported the matter to Division of Fish and Wildlife director Manny Pangelinan, who said more information would be available after their investigation.

Public Law 12-46 considers Forbidden Island and Bird Island sanctuaries since April 2001. Both sites are "no-take" protected areas, meaning feeding, extracting, and damaging of fish is prohibited. Also included in the protection is the removal and damaging of sand and corals within the Forbidden Island area.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE
This file photo shows Beach Road near the Atkins Kroll intersection littered with fallen trees in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Soudelor in August 2015. Photo shows a law enforcement officer using a chainsaw to cut a tree while two volunteers look on.

CARE

From Page 1

cause those are the biggest villages," she said following yesterday's CARE annual meeting at the Governor's Office conference room where Hegland presented the group's 2016 Impact Report.

She said many of the 307 families have made temporary fixes on their homes that are in no shape or form able to withstand even a typhoon much less powerful than Soudelor.

"We're a very strong advocate of our work because a lot of these people are living in precarious situations. We've also heard a lot of stories of people crammed into small spaces as a lot of them have been living with relatives," she said.

Hegland estimates that CARE would need at least \$1 million in cash and in-kind donations to help at least half of the 307 families rebuild their homes.

"It's a constantly moving target. We were able to serve 132 families with the \$853,000 we raised last year and, of the 307, at least half can't recover on their own. We need to raise another \$1 million to serve 150 families and that's a very conservative estimate."

In 2016, CARE was able to get its hands on \$853,000 in cash and in-kind donations—\$437,000 in monetary donations and \$416,000 in in-kind donations.

Only some \$29,000 was not spent from the total CARE got last year, with \$416,000 going to in-kind expenses and \$408,000 for monetary expenses, according to its 2016 Impact Report.

For 2017, Hegland said she hopes to raise the \$1 million like last year, which was a mix of cash and in-kind contributions. To start with, CARE also got a \$303,000 appropriation from the Legislature this year.

Unlike last year though, Hegland said CARE could

now apply for federal grants as the non-profit is now a federally recognized 501(c)(3) organization.

Hegland and other officials and members of CARE were joined in the meeting by acting governor and Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), who commended CARE for its tremendous work in the recovery efforts after Soudelor.

"It is an organization that was very vital in the recovery of Saipan. I'm not sure I can quantify their contribution but without them and other members of our community that stepped up, the recovery wouldn't be as soon as it happened," said Palacios.

He acknowledged that the government must also continue to do its share in helping CARE by earmarking funding so it can help families and individuals still not fully recovered from the Category 4 typhoon.

"In the last budget call, we approved some funding and

one of the key points is our government must also step up. Our volunteers are stepping up to help our community and so we also need to set aside some resources to assist our community, too... I encouraged them to submit a request for funding that we can consider for the next fiscal cycle," he said.

Some of the other highlights of CARE's 2016 Impact Report are the following:

- 358 families or 1,324 individuals received some form of assistance to help in their recovery.

- \$572,966 was allocated to families for building materials to rebuild stronger homes.

- 54 families received beds, refrigerators, and other household items essential for long-term recovery.

- 571 volunteers spent 20,588 hours helping rebuild homes on Saipan.

- 38 network partners and 2,000 attendees participated in Soudelor anniversary events.

continued beating her up.

In July 2011, Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja sentenced Kaipat to three days in prison, with credit for three days of time served, for disturbing the peace that stemmed from a domestic violence involving the same victim.

Naraja placed Kaipat on probation for one year.

At that time, Kaipat was a Customs officer, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Some veteran police officers have wondered how Kaipat was able to join the police academy last year considering his previous domestic violence conviction and TROs as well as several traffic cases. The victim sought the TROs.

asleep. When she woke up, another officer asked her what happened and she replied that her husband punched her on the head several times. Medics arrived and brought the victim to the hospital.

The victim later told police that she and her husband just came from a party and she was on the phone with her sister when Kaipat grabbed her phone, turned it off, grabbed her hair and punched her head and face. He allegedly even wrapped his arm around her neck in a headlock.

Somehow, the victim's father was on the other line and heard the fight. The victim told her father to call the police for her. She managed to pull the car over, while her husband

ongs Restaurant on Friday at 11:18pm after receiving a call about a disturbing the peace incident.

Police detective Simon T. Manacop, who was the first to arrive at the scene, saw Kaipat on top of his wife on the passenger side seat of a Nissan Altima car. Kaipat was reportedly holding down his wife's head on the seat. The wife was stepping on the car's horn, causing it to honk several times. Manacop arrested Kaipat.

Manacop then noticed that the wife had bruises on her face and forehead. When he asked her how she was, she replied that her head was hurting. The victim laid down on the passenger side seat and fell

BOARD

From Page 1

House Bill 19-186, HD1, an act that would establish a Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board of trustees, is now Public Law 19-78.

Torres also signed a bill removing the tenure of board officers under the Board of Professional Licensing; the bill is now PL 19-77.

The passage of PL 19-78 now gives the CHCC board management and control of the corporation's daily operations, functions, and activities.

Torres, however, enacted the measure with reservations. He urged the Legislature to introduce a separate measure that would make sure the board would comply with regulations of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"While this bill becomes law, I respectfully advise the Legislature to pass legislation that ensures the governing board is in compliance with [CMS] regulations in order for CHCC to continue receiving federal funds for Medicare or Medicaid patients," said Torres in the letter to House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) and Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan).

"CMS' regulations aim for a governing body that is primarily responsible for appointing members of the medical staff and for developing an institutional plan and budget. The governing board established by [PL 19-78] has powers beyond what is expected by CMS."

In case CMS finds the new setup in violation of CHCC regulations, the corporation would run the risk of being ineligible to receive payment from Medicare and Medicaid. "This would hamper the ability of our senior citizens on Medicare and the 36 percent of our population on Medicaid to pay for health care," Torres said.

Before becoming law, the measure faced stiff opposition from CHCC personnel. CHCC staff—administra-

tive and medical—even had a show of strength when the Senate held its deliberations before voting on the bill on Dec. 6 last year.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muna, MHA had cautioned officials against changing CHCC's structure. In fact, the law came about due to the very public nature of the spats between Muña and the former CHCC board, at the time headed by board chair Joaquin Torres. At the time, the board was merely an advisory body and could only make recommendations to Muña.

The bill was introduced by former representative Felicidad T. Ogomoro.

PL 19-77

Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) was the author of H.B. 19-118, which removed the term limits of the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing members in order to avoid a shortage of qualified professionals that would serve on the body.

"The Legislature finds that currently there is a shortage in the CNMI of skilled and educated professionals who are qualified to serve on the [BPL], specifically, professionals who are skilled and educated in the fields of architecture, land surveying, land architecture, and property appraisal."

"The amendment will help prevent board vacancies as well as to ensure consistency in regulations."

The members of the board would serve for six years while the officers shall be elected every two years. The board would then elect—by majority vote of a quorum—a chair, vice chair, and secretary.

"In the event of a vacancy on the board for reason resulting in an unexpired term and the governor has failed to appoint a successor within three months after the vacancy occurs, the board may appoint a provisional member to serve in the interim until the governor makes an appointment."

ROOKIE

From Page 1

two prior criminal cases and several traffic cases, including driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Kaipat was directed to surrender his firearm.

A private counsel will be appointed as Kaipat's lawyer.

Attorney Michael White informed the court that he represents the wife, who is planning to divorce Kaipat. Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley appeared for the government.

Preliminary hearing will be on Jan. 24 at 1:30pm.

Police officers responded to the parking lot across the Tru-

Luta owners agree to settle 3 claims for over \$600K

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The owners of cargo ship M/V

Gunnar is finally adopted

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

A dog that was reported to be recovering a week after being tied to a rock to drown has been adopted.

The 5-month-old dog, named Gunnar, was adopted last Sunday by Phyllis Ain, a literacy coach for William S. Reyes Elementary School.

“[Gunnar] has toys, five other dogs to play with, and a few cats to teach him how to behave,” said Ain, chuckling.

“Gunnar has been doing fine. His back legs are still really rubbery; they don’t stand up straight, but he is getting better,” she added.

The dog was named after Capt. Gunnar Coffman who reported the dog’s condition to Saipan Cares for Animals.

Gunnar exhibits weak hind legs, indicating a sign of mal-

Luta have reached a settlement agreement to pay over \$600,000 to the three parties that intervened in Japanese investor

nutrition, which SCA believes is due to the negligence of his previous owner.

The 5-month-old puppy is now recovering happily with a new pack that has happily accepted him, said Ain.

“He is taking [medications] to help take care of the mange. You wouldn’t know [Gunnar] was a dog that went through a lot. Most of the time, dogs like that are really hard to bond with,” said Ain.

“Gunnar is a really social dog. He follows us everywhere and I take him everywhere I can. He is just doing really great,” she added.

“We really love him and we are very lucky to have him. He needs a place where he is safe and where he could be watched very carefully.”

Ain owes it all to SCA for taking care of Gunnar before she decided to adopt him.

Takahisa Yamamoto’s lawsuit against Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and the vessel’s owners.

Attorney William M. Fitzgerald disclosed yesterday that his clients told him on Friday that a Guam company was willing to provide *Luta Mermaid* with a loan so it could settle with the former captain of M/V *Luta* and six crewmembers, Long Consulting LLC, and Norton Lilly International Inc.

Fitzgerald is counsel for M/V *Luta*, *Luta Mermaid* LLC, *Luta Mermaid* president Abelina T. Mendiola, and *Luta Mermaid* organizers and members Deron T. Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola III, who are all defendants in Yamamoto’s lawsuit.

During the settlement conference before Guam mag-

istrate judge Joaquin Manibusan on Friday, Fitzgerald said they were able to reach an agreement on the settlement amounts that would be paid to the intervenors upon getting the loan.

Fitzgerald said he was also able to talk to the lender’s lawyer, who confirmed that the money was ready to be loaned.

The lawyer said it is important that they get a court decision whether the vessel can be released as soon as possible so they know whether they can move forward with the settlement of the intervenors’ claims.

Fitzgerald said the release of M/V *Luta* at this time will be in everyone’s interest since it will allow payment and satisfaction to the three groups of intervenors, leaving only Ya-

mamoto to litigate his claims.

Fitzgerald said this will not prejudice Yamamoto since the defendants are Rota residents of Rota and are not going away.

He said a court’s order to M/V *Luta*’s owner will be sufficient to ensure that the vessel will not go anywhere.

“This would be sufficient security for Mr. Yamamoto to ensure that if he is successful in his suit, he would be able to execute on the asset of the company, *Luta Mermaid*,” the lawyer pointed out.

Fitzgerald said this is far better alternative for Yamamoto than proceeding with the ship’s sale, where the price the vessel would fetch at an auction is highly questionable and the claims to be paid before him total more than \$1 mil-

lion, pursuant to the figures presented by claimants at the settlement conference.

“I sincerely believe, therefore, that Mr. Yamamoto will not be prejudiced by the court vacating the sale order and releasing the maritime lien,” he added.

Yamamoto is suing Lt. Gov. Hocog and the owner/operators of M/V *Luta* for allegedly refusing to pay back the \$3.4 million that he put up for the vessel.

After Yamamoto filed the lawsuit last Oct. 25, the U.S. Marshal Service seized M/V *Luta*. The National Maritime Services was appointed as custodian of the vessel.

Robert Tenorio Torres

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Attorney for Petitioner: Maria M. Cruz

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ESTEFANIA PALACIOS SCRUGGS, Decedent.) Civil Action No. 17-0002) NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION TO PROBATE WILL and NOTICE TO CREDITORS Date: February 9, 2017 Time: 9:00 a.m. Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ESTEFANIA PALACIOS SCRUGGS OR OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Maria M. Cruz** of Saipan, CNMI (“Petitioner”), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Probate the Will of the **Estate of Estefania Palacios Scruggs, Decedent**. The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert T. Torres, Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition to Probate Will by **Maria M. Cruz**, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on February 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma’ Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 4th day of January, 2017.

/s/
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk




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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

Frank M. Rabaulman
Administrator



COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
Frances A. Castro
Director

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS


Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 10AM** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room, Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION**
 - GUALO RAI HOTEL & DORMITORIES**
CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2017-X-010
 - Project Summary
 - Discussion by CRM Agency Officials and DCRM Director
 - Permit Application Determination Status
 - CHALAN LAULAU DORMITORIES**
CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2017-X-003
 - Project Summary
 - Discussion by CRM Agency Officials and DCRM Director
 - Permit Application Determination Status
- III. OTHER MATTERS**
- IV. ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).


/s/ **FRANCES A. CASTRO**
DCRM Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS

DPW/SWMD17-IFB-001

Removal, Packaging, Labeling, Containment, and Shipping of Discarded Electronic Waste (E-WASTE) Collected at Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), is soliciting sealed bids for removal, packaging, labeling, containment, and shipping of discarded e-waste consisting of televisions (plasma, cathode-ray tube and flat screen), PC towers, monitors, keyboards and peripherals, copy and printing machines, VCR and CD player boom boxes, radios, stereo equipment, fax machines, desktop calculators, projectors, telephones, and other related electronic appliances and equipment from the Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The shipping of e-waste is destined for either reuse, resale, salvage, recycling, or disposal to an end-processor firm in the U. S. Mainland or in a foreign government.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after **January 11, 2017** at the Solid Waste Management Division Office, Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect.

Breach of Ethical Standard

- **Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. **NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)**
- **Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order. **NMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)**
- **Contingent fees.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. **NMIAC 70-30.3-730**

There will be a mandatory **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **January 27, 2017, 9:30 a.m. local time** at the Solid Waste Management Division Office Conference Room, Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the accumulation of e-waste at the Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:00 p.m. local time on **February 01, 2017** to Mr. Enrique Dela Cruz, Director of Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan, or fax to (670) 322-2762. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:00 p.m. to Mr. Enrique Dela Cruz, Director of Solid Waste Management Division, Lower Base Transfer Station, Saipan, or fax to (670) 322-2762.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the collection of e-waste and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Solid Waste Management Division Office by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 322-2745/2760 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW/SWMD17-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, February 15, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, February 15, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@picom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **February 15, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **February 27, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, February 27, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time on February 15, 2017**.

For bids, greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations §70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov't Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **one-hundred-twenty (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred (US\$300.00)** for each day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



Northern Marianas College

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Phone: (670) 237-6858/6855 • Fax: (670) 235-3696
Website: http://www.marianas.edu

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Table with 2 columns: Position Title, Department, Pay Level & Step, Annual Salary, Location, Opening Date. Rows include Instructor, Hospitality/Tourism; Program Coordinator I (Institutional Marketing); Director, Library Programs & Services; Clinical Instructor, Nursing; Program Manager I (UCEDD); Coordinator, Distance Learning Education; Department Chair II; Counselor (Early Intervention); Coordinator, Prior Learning; Instructor, Science; Chief Financial Officer; Personnel Specialist III.

Applications must be submitted by 4:30 pm on the closing date. If there are no qualified applicants or the set of qualified applicants is deemed an insufficient pool, the closing date will be extended for two-week periods for further submission and review of applications until the search is closed.

Suit vs ex-Tinian mayor, Tribune dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Superior Court judge dismissed yesterday the defamation lawsuit filed by former Saipan Municipal Council member Felipe Q. Atalig against former Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz and the Saipan Tribune. Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed with prejudice the lawsuit against Dela Cruz, Saipan Tribune, its editor Jayvee L. Vallejera, and its former reporter Moneth Deposa. Dismissed with prejudice means that Atalig can no longer re-file the case.

Camacho ordered the dismissal after Atalig and the defendants indicated that they have settled their differences without the exchange of an amount paid in settlement. The parties' stipulation, however, does not include disbarred lawyer Ramon Quichocho, who is Atalig's co-plaintiff in the lawsuit. The stipulation was signed by Michael N. Evangelista, counsel for Atalig; Charles Brasington, counsel for Dela Cruz; and Steven P. Pixley, counsel for Saipan Tribune owner Pacific Publications

and Printing Inc., Vallejera, and Deposa. According to the stipulation, no amount is being paid for the dismissal; instead, the parties have determined that it is in all parties' and the court's best interests for the matter to end now. Atalig and Quichocho filed the lawsuit in February 2011. It stemmed from Dela Cruz's statement that was written by Deposa and published by the Saipan Tribune on Jan. 28, 2011. Atalig and Quichocho stated in the complaint that Saipan Tribune published the article without informing or confirming with them whether the allegations were true or not.

Last Sept. 21, Saipan Tribune, Vallejera, and Deposa, through Pixley, asked the court to dismiss the case because Atalig and Quichocho have not taken any action on this case for five years.

Dela Cruz, through Brasington, joined in the motion to dismiss for lack of prosecution. Last Dec. 14, Atalig and the defendants filed a stipulation to dismiss. Camacho granted it. In an order last week, Camacho noted that the stipulation does not include Quichocho and that the latter's claim is still pending. The judge set the motion for lack of prosecution on Jan. 31, 2017, at 1:30pm. In his declaration filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI in April 2015, Quichocho says he is now self-employed in Tacoma, Washington.

The district court ordered Quichocho to pay \$2.8 million in damages, costs, and attorney's fees to businesswoman Jung Ja Kim, who prevailed in her racketeering lawsuit against him and his wife. The Quichocho couple, however, moved to Washington, where they filed a bankruptcy petition in the Western District of Washington.

Public warned of high surf

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, a large north swell from a winter storm that moved off Japan will maintain hazardous surf through at least Thursday. Hazardous surf will spread to east facing reefs in the CNMI.

A high surf advisory is in effect until 6am Friday. For north facing reefs, a large north swell is expected to bring hazardous surf of 9 to 13 feet to the Marianas. Surf is expected to remain near these levels through today, Wednesday, before beginning to subside. The surf on north facing reefs is expected to remain above hazardous levels through Friday morning. For east facing reefs, a large north swell veers to the northeast over the next couple of days. Surf will become hazardous overnight for east facing reefs. On Rota, a north swell will spread over to the west facing coasts producing hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet. Surf will reduce below hazardous levels late Wednesday on these reefs as the swell veers further to the east. The public is advised to avoid venturing near reefs along exposed beaches especially those facing north as rip currents will be life-threatening. (EOC)

SCS HONOR ROLL

Saipan Community School announced last week the honor roll students for the second quarter of the 2016-17 school year. Students are recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being identified with honor status. To qualify for the SCS Principal's List, a student must achieve a 4.0 GPA. To qualify for the A Honor Roll, a student must attain a 3.50 GPA. To qualify for the B Honor Roll, a student must attain a 3.00 GPA.

Table with 2 columns: Grade, Student Name. Rows include 6TH GRADE (Seung Won Lee), 8TH GRADE (Jason Sablan), 7TH GRADE (Seung Jin Paik, Shu Qi Wu, Tina Zhen, Sedrei Camacho, Moon Zeng), and B Honor Roll (Ariya McGuire, Annie Ren, Miku Torres).

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fourteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the Office of the Commissioner Conference Room, Building 1211, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
a. October 12, 2016 Special Board Meeting
b. October 19, 2016 Regular Board Meeting
c. November 3 & 9, 2016 Special Board Meeting
d. November 18, 2016 Special Board Meeting
- II. Public Comments
- III. Reports
1. Chair
2. Board Committees
a. CIP
b. FPA
c. ISA
d. LIA
e. SICPP
f. SARC
3. Commissioner of Education
a. Goals and Objectives for 2017
b. Financial Status Reports
i. Federal
ii. Local
c. Head Start Program
d. Office of Curriculum & Instruction
e. Others
- IV. Unfinished Business
- V. New Business
1. Updates:
a. PSS Compensation Plan
b. Plan to Fill or Hire School Vacancies
c. Publication of Phase 2 of NMI History Book
d. FY'16 Audit Status Report
e. Actingship Matters
f. Students First Newsletter
g. Erate
2. Annual Reports
a. PSS
b. JROTC
c. Head Start Program
3. FY'16 Audit Status Report
4. Part B (Special Education) Annual Performance Report (APR)
5. Proposed Budget for FY'18
6. Proclamation of Counselors Month - February
7. Revised Organizational Chart
8. Certification and Licensure Matters
a. CLO Report No. 2017-001
- VI. Executive Session
1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters
- VII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting
- VIII. Adjournment

1 In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.
2 Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
3 Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Whispering Palms students reach out to ill student

You have probably never heard of Elyse Wickenheiser. She is an 8-year old girl liv-

ing in Carleton, Michigan. On her eighth birthday, test results indicated she had leukemia.

Kanani Sablan is named Kanoa HR manager

Asia Pacific Hotel Inc., which operates both the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan and Kanoa Resort in Susupe, announced yesterday the promotion of Kanani Sablan



Sablan

as the new human resources manager at the Kanoa Resort, effective immediately.

Sablan takes on a new challenge within the group, bringing local knowledge and professionalism to her first role in hospitality management. Sablan joined TanHoldings in June 2012 and worked as HR assistant for the L&T group of companies and Fiesta Resort. She also completed the Management Training Program focusing on Rooms Division at Fiesta. In August 2013, Sablan transferred to Kanoa Resort as HR assistant and was elevated to the position of HR officer in June 2016.

In her new capacity, Sablan will manage the implementation of all human

resource management operations including staffing and selection, benefits and compensation programs, policies and procedures and ensuring compliance with all local and federal labor regulations.

Sablan is a graduate of McKay High School in Salem, Oregon, and earned her associate degree in General Studies at Portland Community College. Currently, she is pursuing her bachelor's degree in Business Management.

Kanoa Resort Saipan is part of Asia Pacific Hotel Inc., under the TanHoldings group of companies. Located on a strip of beach in the heart of Susupe, the Kanoa Resort operates 224 guest rooms, two restaurants, two meeting rooms, a fitness center, pool with two waterslides, adventure zone activities, beach volleyball courts and a retail outlet. Club C, DFS Saipan, CMLC Artha (Scuba), also have retail shops on property. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Whispering Palms School students sign a card for Elyse Wickenheiser.

That was certainly not a happy birthday gift. As a result, she is scheduled to have two years of chemotherapy and has had to drop out of school, which leaves her suddenly lonely without her friends and teachers. To combat the loneliness, she has requested cards from all over the United States. Elyse, or Elly as most people call her, now waits for the daily mail with eager anticipation.

One the middle school

teacher at Whispering Palms School is Ms. JoAnn. Her home is just a few miles from Carleton, Michigan, where Elly lives. Ms. JoAnn heard about Elly and brought the story to her middle school classroom at Whispering Palms School. The students signed a card for Ellie and sent her some mementos from Saipan. They acquired a Tribes T-shirt, hat, and stickers as gifts and an introduction to our beautiful



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO


Photo shows some of the mementos from Saipan—a Tribes T-shirt, hat, and stickers as gifts and an introduction to our beautiful island—that will be given to Elyse Wickenheiser.

island. Tribes is a locally owned shop that mixes island culture and urban street culture, blending the two into a unique presence on the island through clothing. Sharing the Tribes clothing with Elly will allow her to wear a piece of the island and bring awareness of the location and culture of Saipan to people in her community.

Elly and her two older sisters read each card aloud. When they're finished, they put a dot on a map to show


which state or town the card was mailed from. She has received cards from all over the United States, and even from Spain and Australia.

The Whispering Palms students have added Saipan to Elly's map. If you would like to know more about supporting Elly, you can contact Ms. JoAnn at Whispering Palms School, a private school located on Navy Hill for students aged 4-14. The phone number is 323-7451. (PR)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-17-010

SAIPAN SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

(S-14-035)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of sewer line in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the replacement of asbestos cement pipe (ACP) in the area of San Antonio, Chalan Kanoa, and Susupe Village. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The Project is to replace approximately ± 260 LF of existing 10-inch ACP, ± 2200 LF of existing 8-inch ACP, and ± 250 LF of existing 6-inch ACP, existing sewer manhole rehabilitation, installation of new concrete sewer manhole, 4-inch and 6-inch service lateral connections, installation and monitoring of wastewater temporary by-pass pumping system and road restoration.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **January 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-010, Saipan Sewer Line Replacement Project"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 02, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.


All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 17, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email address birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Cancer Association

AWARENESS • EDUCATION • HOPE

2017 CCA Board of Directors & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

The Commonwealth Cancer Association is inviting the community, cancer survivors, friends, and supporters to its annual general membership meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 5:30 PM at the CCA conference room in Gualo Rai.

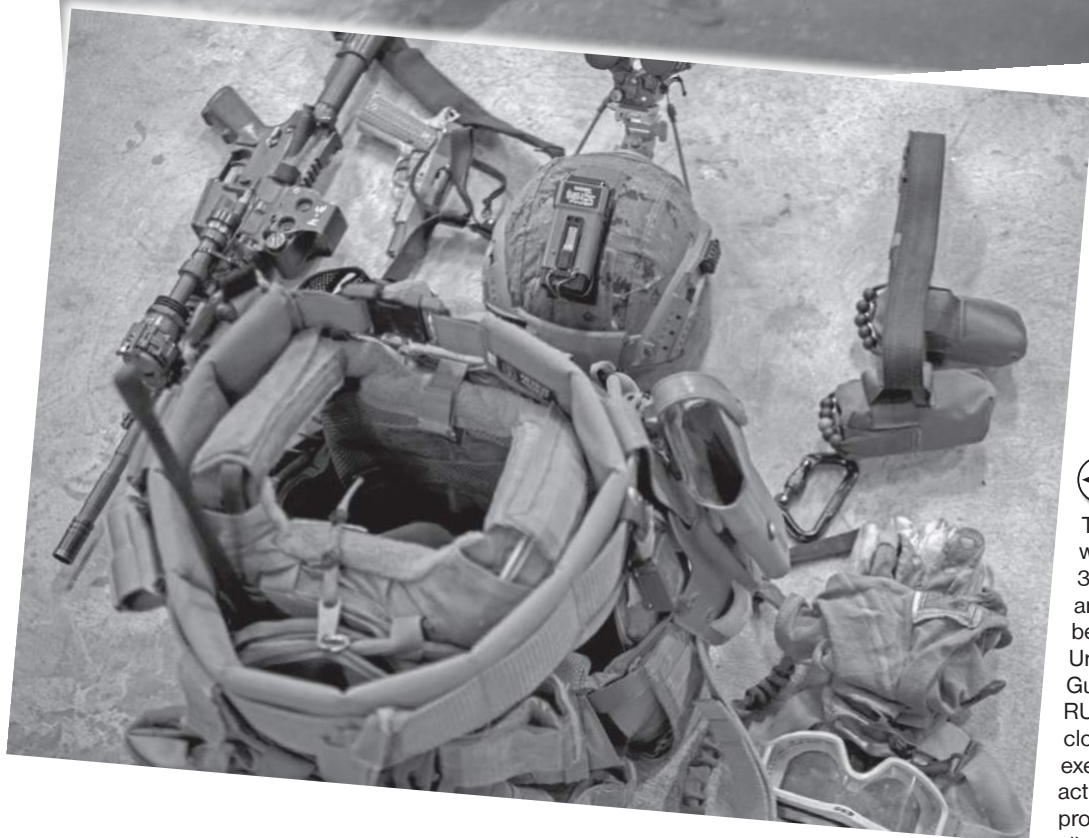
The agenda will include the president's 2016 annual report as well as the treasurer's financial report. Immediately after the representations, election of four (4) board members will commence. Nominations for board members will be accepted in advance via email and/or on the floor.

To submit a board nomination, or more information contact CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com

Marines to undergo urban training in Guam

U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. THOR J. LARSON

Sgt. Eric Ortega holds security while waiting for a helicopter to land during a raid Jan. 13, 2015, on Guam. The raid is part of Realistic Urban Training Exercise; a high-intensity, close-quarter battle training exercise conducted by Marines with Maritime Raid Force, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. The exercise was conducted in an urban environment to provide a high degree of realism to the training.



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. THOR J. LARSON

A Marine with Maritime Raid Force, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, holds security while his team moves toward the objective during a raid Jan. 13, 2015, in Guam.

U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. THOR J. LARSON

The gear of a Marine with Maritime Raid Force, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, sits out ready to be used during Realistic Urban Training Exercise in Guam on Jan. 13, 2016. RUTEX is a high-intensity close-quarter battle training exercise conducted in an actual urban environment to provide a high degree of realism to the training.

D E D E D O , Guam—The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit is scheduled to participate in a Realistic Urban Training Exercise in Guam from Jan. 23 to Feb. 4 in preparation of the unit's deployment in the Asia-Pacific late this year.

The purpose of exercise is to train the Marines of the 31st Expeditionary Unit to coordinate with law enforcement agencies and civic leaders to operate in an urban environment and hone their proficiency to respond to threats to the community or its infrastructure.

For a brief period, raid exercises will be held at the Tanguisson power plant in Dededo, at the Gov. Richard J. Bordallo Complex at Adelup and at northwest field on Andersen Air Force Base. Residents of the island could see Marines periodically throughout the exercise and may notice increased military activities during the exercise period.

Since August of last year, planners for the exercise have coordinated through the appropriate territorial and village agencies and officials to

ensure safety and minimize the impact on the community. Some of these agencies include the Office of the Governor and Lt. Governor, Guam Fire Department, Guam Police Department, the Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Working in an unfamiliar environment is critical to the success of our Marines," said Col. Colonel Tye R. Wallace, commander of the 31st MEU. "As the nation's only permanently deployed Marine Expeditionary Unit, we must be able to react with little or no notice to threats in urban communities."

"We are happy to support Marine Corps Activity Guam and the Expeditionary Operations Training Group," said Charles Esteves, Office of Civil Defense administrator. "Public safety during the conduct of the exercise is our number one priority. Risk management was conducted at every stage of the planning process and will be mitigated by exercise stakeholders and partnering agencies within the government of Guam. There is no doubt that this year's exercise will be a success." (PR)

Hocog: Some policies bar investors on Tinian, Rota

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the fact that Saipan is getting a bit congested, Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog believes there are issues and some CNMI policies that have prevented potential investors from doing business on Tinian and Rota.

“We are aspiring to invite potential investors to diversify our business climate, but there are policies that prevent them from doing so. Saipan is getting congested so we need to move [out]. We also like to see Rota and Tinian prosper and contribute to the CNMI,” Hocog said.

“[We need to] send a message that there are two other islands that are also conducive for business, in order for us to include the entire Marianas chain of islands and to also engage in helping the economy,” he added.

Economic activity on Tinian is expected to pick up in the coming months with separate projects being developed by Alter City Group and Bridge Investment Group, and the divert airfield project of the U.S. Air Force.

There are also two investors that are looking to develop hotel resorts on Rota, according to floor leader Glenn L. Maratita in an earlier interview.

Although both Tinian and Rota’s airports can accommodate direct international flights, transportation remains a problem.

BIG plans to revive the Tinian ferry but Hocog said this is still a long process.

“We support it [Tinian ferry] but there’s too many agencies that are involved. First, [the Commonwealth Ports Authority] must return the land to [Department of Public Lands]. DPL will then have to lease it to BIG,” said Hocog.

“It is still a long process to go. It may take some time to work out. Even with the condition of the lease, we asked them but they have not received anything yet. We’re going to work on that. They should reach a solution soon for the economic revival of Tinian and Rota.”

He said the administration and Legislature could work together in order to address the problems that block economic development on the two other islands. “We are very hopeful that the Legislature would seriously address these issues and at least relax some of the policies.”

CPA board director Kimberly K. King-Hinds, in last week’s signing of Public Law 19-76 that empowered the CPA to grant concessions, said she is glad that Senate President Arnold I. Palacios



JON PEREZ

INAUGURATION

From left, CNMI Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa K. Kim-Tenorio, CNMI Supreme Court Associate Justice John A. Manglona, and U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands Presiding Judge Ramona V. Manglona watch the Senate inauguration on Jan. 9, 2107, from the gallery.

and Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero were present during the event. Guerrero, who chairs the House committees on Commerce and Tourism, was the author of House Bill 19-189 SS1 that became PL 19-76.

“CPA is almost done drafting a piece of legislation that hopes to address the issue regarding DPL’s concerns on port-related activities. We would like to ask, if you see the bill coming your way [Legislature], for your support. The bill is not only for Tinian but for port-related activities in CNMI,” she said.

■ Jan. 20 from 10am to 3pm
The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

Rota urged to make homes energy-efficient

Staff from the Weatherization Assistance Program will be on Rota on Tuesday next week, Jan. 24, 2017, from 9am to 3pm at the Rota Mayor’s Office to provide on-site assistance regarding the application process and the program services available to qualified low-income eligible residents. To avail of the program services, application forms are available at the Rota Mayor’s Office or may be obtained online at www.cnmienergy.com. For additional information, you may also contact 664-4480/4481. Monday through Friday, except weekends and holidays, from 7:30am to 11:30am and from 12:30pm to 4:30pm and ask for Christina Babauta. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

KHS half day today

Kagman High School will be on half-day schedule today, Jan. 18, 2017. KHS will be releasing students at 12:30pm to conduct a staff training with all teachers. Faculty and staff will be attending Achieve 3000 training. For more information please contact the KHS Main Office at 237-3187 or 664-3780. (PR)

Benefits outreach for veterans

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration (non-health) will be conducting a veterans benefits outreach on Jan. 19, 2017, from 9am to 3pm, at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic, MH II Building, Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan. This will be a one-on-one outreach. Chris Duenas, legal administrative specialist, will be available to answer your benefits questions and take your claims. Any questions regarding this visit, contact Ruth Coleman, 322-0035 or Duenas at 1-671-648-0090. (PR)

After-school program at Kagman center

The Family & Youth Enhancement Program-Youth

Services Section of the Division of Youth Services offers an after-school program at the Kagman Community Center on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. Aside from homework/school project sessions, the program also provides for youth prevention activities that focus on literacy, art and music, career opportunities and cultural demonstrations. (PR)

Kagman schools PTSA meeting set

This is to inform all parents, guardians, and the community that the Kagman cluster schools will be having a PTSA meeting on Thursday Jan. 19, 2017, at 5pm at the Kagman Elementary School cafeteria. We are encouraging all parents, and guardians to attend this meeting. Please call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4100 for more information. (PR)

Air Force training at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

■ Jan. 18 from 8am to 8pm



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW-17-IFB-004

FEDDOS LANE ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT, PROJECT

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the Feddos Lane Road and Drainage Improvement, Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **January 18, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect.”

Breach of Ethical Standard

- **Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. **NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)**
- **Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order. **NMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)**
- **Contingent fees.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. **NMIAC 70-30.3-730**

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **February 7, 2017 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **February 22, 2017 to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer’s Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder’s responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked “**DPW-17-IFB-004**”. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, February 27, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, February 27, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@opticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **February 27, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **March 6, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, March 13, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on February 27, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Credit Account No. 44660”. If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov’t Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the Standard Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway projects, PP-03.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 12

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

Don't repeal Obamacare without a workable replacement

President-elect Donald Trump and House and Senate Republicans are on a bullet train toward repealing the Obama administration's centerpiece health care legislative accomplishment but are far from a quick consensus on what will replace it.

Congress this week cleared the way for new legislation with a series of votes that will make it tougher for Democrats to block repeal-and-replace efforts. But even those on the inside aren't clear what repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act really means. Will the actions occur simultaneously? When? Or will repeal take place soon but implementation be delayed for months or even years? And most of all, what will change mean for the American health care system?

The ACA has both strengths and weaknesses. Any attempted fix must protect key benefits and reduce overall costs without reducing access. People with pre-existing conditions, for example, must not be excluded from affordable coverage. Adult children should be allowed to stay on family plans until age 26.

And GOP lawmakers who want to eliminate the mandate that Americans buy insurance must recognize that this is a linchpin of a comprehensive health care. It ensures a large enough pool of healthy people to keep overall prices manageable. And it decreases the effects of uncompensated care on the system. Unless they can find a suitable option, the mandate can't be jettisoned without also jettisoning millions of Americans from insurance coverage, and that is unacceptable.

There is also a risk for hospitals, which are legally required to treat patients whether they are insured or not. Uncertainty about what might come next also would send doctors, hospitals, insurers and patients into chaos. The Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that about 52 million Americans have medical conditions that could deny them insurance coverage without the current health care law's protection.

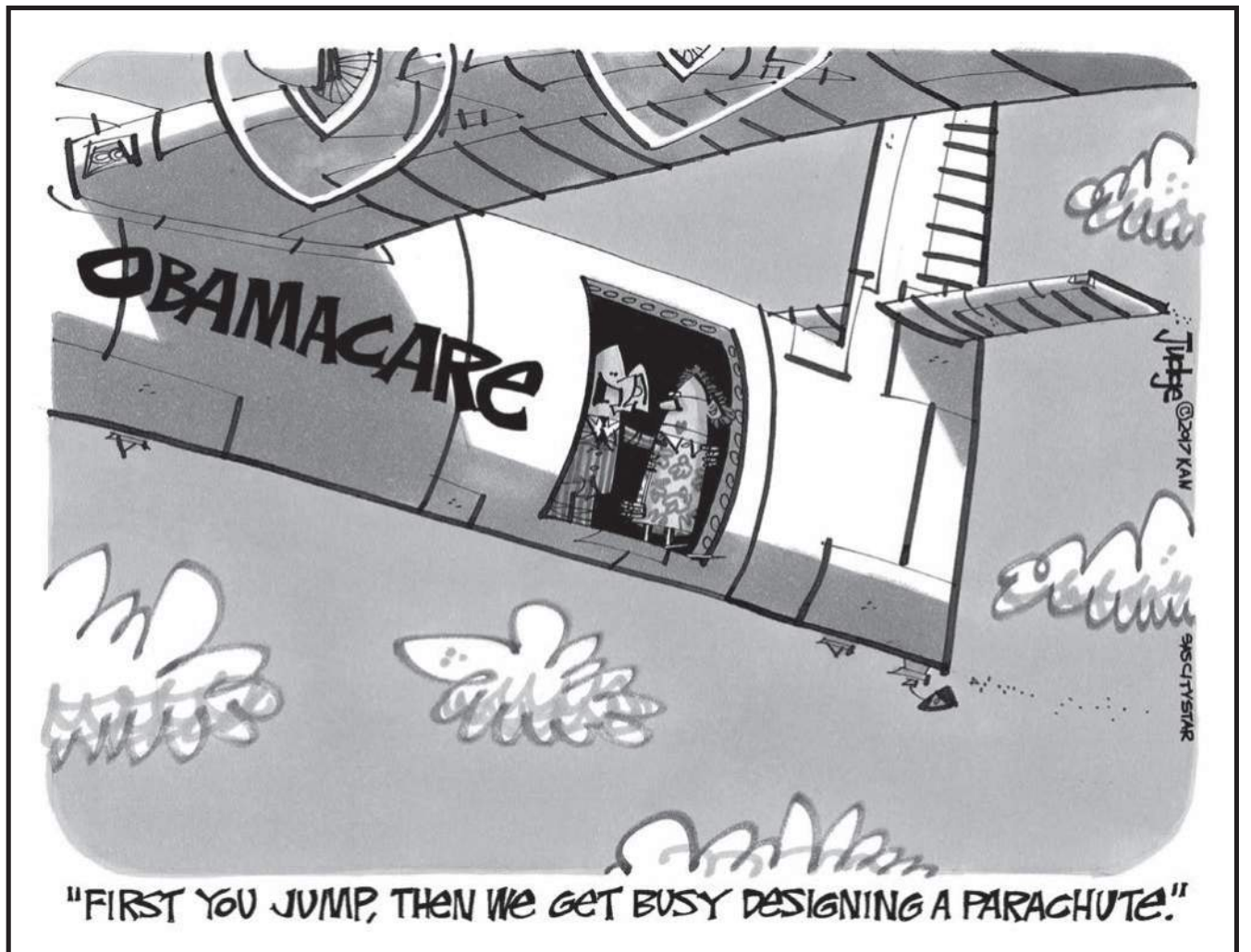
The GOP must not rush to repeal a law that has, overall, improved our health care system without a replacement that meets these basic standards. Right now, there are bits and pieces of policy changes floating through GOP circles but nothing concrete that would satisfy the concerns of patients and insurers.

It was easier to shout "repeal Obamacare" as a political slogan when House Republicans could count on Senate Democrats and President Obama stopping the legislation. Now Trump and Congress own health care reform; it is their responsibility not to undermine the parts that work in a rush to fulfill a campaign promise.

The way to fix the Affordable Care Act is not to reject it outright, but to focus on ways to better spread the risk. Among other things, that means attracting more healthy Americans, finding ways to address escalating drug costs, and not balancing the costs on the backs of vulnerable Americans.

Trump and other Republican leaders should follow the basic health care oath: First, do no harm.

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"FIRST YOU JUMP, THEN WE GET BUSY DESIGNING A PARACHUTE."

Which news media should we rally around?

By **TOM FERRICK JR.**
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

After Donald Trump's rant at BuzzFeed and CNN at his news conference last week, there were calls for the news media to unite against the president-elect's bullying. The theory was that if we don't present a united front, Trump will outflank reporters who have legitimate questions by signaling them out for abuse.

"United we stand, divided we fall" is a nice sentiment, but I trip over the particulars. Who is the "we" in that statement? Is it the weak, sad lamestream media of Trump's Tweets? Is it the brash web newcomers like BuzzFeed and Huffington Post? Does it include the bloggers who regularly write and rant on politics and public policy? Should it include news sources with their own political slant, such as FOX, MSNBC and the Breitbart News Network?

For me, it is not a philosophical issue. It's a question I have to deal with as a teacher of journalism at Bryn Mawr College. My students are the very definition of modern media consumers. They are cafeteria consumers: picking and choosing what information to ingest from myriad sources.

In class, I don't even try to define the maze that is today's news media. I have found it more useful to define what journalism is. For this I draw on a book called "The Elements of Journalism" by Bill Kovach and Tom Rosenstiel, veterans of The New York Times and Los Angeles Times, respectively, who went on to work in journalism research and advocacy.

At the beginning of the new century, Kovach and Rosenstiel, in assessing the emerging (and chaotic) media environment, gathered fellow journalists, academics, and others to try to get a handle on journalism. They had a feeling that journalists had grown uncertain about their status and their mission.

They emerged from this process with a clear message: Best not to concentrate on the medium, but the product. They were humble enough not to take on journalism globally, but just America. Their findings can be expressed in this definition:

American journalism is independent, fact-based, verified reporting that serves the public.

Each word has a deeper meaning. For instance, I usually have a large cadre of international students take my class—students from China, Pakistan, India, and Russia, to name a few countries. To them, independent means not state-owned or controlled. Closer to home, it means reporting that is not ideologically or politically driven or, more mundanely, based on selling your soul to a politician or a publicist to get access.

Fact-based should be self-evident, or at least it was at one time. Journalists don't make stuff up. We observe, we report, we write what we have seen or learned.

Verified means what it says. You not only must believe something is true, you must prove it. Journalism's "essence is the discipline of verification," as the authors put it. BuzzFeed violated that rule by printing an unverified, report from a partisan source—and then claimed it was doing it as a public service. It did not serve the public.

In my career as a reporter, I've often been exposed to specious polls, reports and tips that purport to reveal the truth, usually about opposing candidates. I have tried to check them out—if they sounded plausible—but almost always came up empty. It's harder in today's media environment to avoid such "exclusives" but printing them does nothing to serve the public, even if you win the race for clicks.

Some might find the Kovach-Rosenstiel book hard to take because it portrays journalists almost as members of a holy order, given a sacred mission by our Founding Fathers of serving democracy through truth telling. It doesn't jibe with the modern perception that journalists are just a cynical bunch who will do anything to get a story or, at the old phrase went, to sell newspapers.

Journalists do tend to be cynical. They are tempted to produce stories as click bait. They do violate rules of fairness. They do mangle or, worse, make up facts. As a profession, we are guilty of sins mortal and venial.

But, most of the journalists I know do care deeply about the truth; they feel driven to serve the watchdog role; they try their best to be fair and independent. Their failures do not make them evil; they make them human.

My international students are often dazzled by the reporting they see in American media outlets that not only expose scandals, but also offer strong critiques of those in power. Our style of journalism is one of this country's most valued exports, admired by journalists in emerging democracies and authoritarian states.

It would be ironic—and tragic—to have this brand of journalism grow outside our borders, while it withers within.

We in the media must unite, but not around one reporter nor one news outlet. We should call out the phonies, rally around the ideals expressed by Kovach and Rosenstiel, and hope that it carries us through this long night.

Tom Ferrick Jr. is a former Philadelphia Inquirer columnist who works as a journalist and teacher. He wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may email him at tferrick@gmail.com.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Kareran Lehislatura

Nai ta huchum i uttimu pahinan 2016, dispues ta baba i primet pahinan 2017, ta soda' mismu asuntu ni hagas tafana'. I sakan ha' matulaika. Guaha mohon esperanza (hope) para tinilaikan mas libianu na linala' para i publiku?

Seguruyu' na i ineppe ñaṅgon sin konfiansa pot ti man-seguru haf' mafafana' na biahe. Nahuṅ man-sustansiau na asuntu siha ni debi u fan ma-estudiaye. Kau magahet na man-masatba siempre tali'e gi rinisakin laṅgat ni maṅgikililog halum?

Memegaiña gi asuntu siempre pot moneda ni debi umasoda'e. Gigon ha tutuhun i federat umutut i Medicaid yan food stamps siempre iya Marianas u kinatga este siha na obligasion. Taya' dinidahu na siña este siha man-makatsu. Na ti mamatitinas industriar casino guine biyon yan biyon pesus gi sakan?

Kausan Biktot: I kotte ha disidi na tisiña si Biktot Hokog mahaye pot aksioña kumu membron lehislatura gi \$400,000 na fondun publiku ni hana' mana'e MV Luta Mermaid.

Lau otu patte gi kausa sumaga ya siempre umakontinua kasi gi Matsu sino Abrit na mes. I dos patte pot inisaguen lai ni prumuhibi offisiat publiku sumaunau mandisidi asuntu para benefisian familiaña. I otu pot madisponen fondu (\$400,000) sin apropiasion lehislatura.

Gi kotte siempre 'nai debi si Biktot yan familiaña Mendiola umapresenta taimanu 'nai magasta este na fondun publiku. Estague' na patte i mas fumañañague i tropan Biktot. Siempre u anog manu 'nai magasta i salape' publiku!

I lai lokue' ha mandatu i Public Auditor na 'an guaha ha i'ina gi gobietnu sino segundoña, debi ayu na ripot umalagnus publikamente. Lai este ayu mina makat makat mañega. Gi uttimu debi i Attorney General de u rikohe tatte ayu na salape'. Siempre tali'e kau ha petsige pat ha disidi na para una' atog i asuntun.

Kabayeru: Hu dibibina kau siña ma-amenda i lai casino pot para umahatsa mas kontribusion aduana (tax) Best Sunshine para benefisiota?

Hu suspepecha na siña hombre hahatsa sueddon niha gi finagpu' mapos na sakan. Kasi siha finenina para uma-ayudan maisa siha antes de u chalapun i kineni' tiau gi bisinu. Hombre, na lachadeg fan pumatte ham kosake siña bai'n chagi lokue' mañge' na kelaguen!

Maliṅgu: Sige hu rikonose un' sanye'ye' (small spider) gi troṅkun patma mientras hu rikokohe basulan hagin gi oriya. Kontodu tararañas taigüe. Gi man-amku', i sanye'ye' ha rikokohe i tararañas 'nai guaha mamamaila' dañkulu na pagyu.

Lau puru fotten uchan gaige gi ripot klima gi oriya. Kau haf' mohon na pagyu hali'e i ga'ga' na ha muebague'? Hmmm! Kau inespanta ni pagyun gueku na politika ginen hilu'? Hu dispacha lau dispues kontodu kukunitus otu kantan niniha na biahe!

Abarambau: I nuebu na presidenti as Trump ha faisen i kongressu para u punu' i mafanana'n Obamacare—program insurers pot hinemlu'—ya umatulaika ensegidas.

Tumunug i asuntu gi petsonat sa' inipus si Obama na trompison ha yotte kontra as Trump. Gi hilu' este ha funas si Trump i uniku ni mas yaña si Obama a programaña. Magpu' kontodu lisayun talo'ane!

Dialu ya siha u fan a'asukus mientras guaha inadahe pot no u affekta tautau-ta ni mangaige gi programan Medicaid.

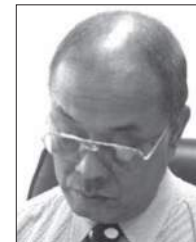
Dispues, para u kuentos si Obama si siudague' 'nai dumañkulu, era iya Chicago. Lastima sa' megai lumi'e ayu na speech kumu gueku pot guaha 762 na tautau manmapunu' esta i mapus na mes. Taya' ayudu hana'e ayu a siuda para uma-ataha i numerun man-mapunu' paki.

Machalapun: Hu e'ekuṅgog finu' (speeches) i nuebu na hinalum membron lehislatura. Haf' na katin kukunitus gi 'eda' gi lemlem tautau. Hokug mapasalista papa' problema-ta lau ni unu man-offresi planun satbasion. Diberas!

Estague' 'nai a'anog i gueku na offresimientu siha. Gigon un' faisen planun satbasion, todou man-udu sa' ni siha mismu tima komprende na kada problema debi umasatba sin ditension.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Dios mihu na nina' mamahlau i sentaya' planun satbasion! Kulan New Year's resolution ni ta fataṅgaye gigon ta totpi mismu problema-ta siha desde alacha. A' saina!

Uttimu: Gi uttimun mes Abrit uttimu na attikulun finu' Chamorro ginen guahu. Bai' regaluyu' deskansu pot guaha otu siha asuntu hututugi' tat kumu lepblu pot estorian tano'-ta ni hu intended para famaguon-ta.

Hu agradesi appottunadat tumugi' sentimentog-hu pot asunto-ta siha. Hu cho'gue pot liṅguahen tanu' ni presisu uma-abiba petpetuamenti gi halum famaguon-ta. Sahyan kuttura yan tradision i liṅguahita. Praktika i usuña diariu pot no in' fan naufragu gi mismu hila' mañaina-ta. Si Iku.

Trump likely will connect in inaugural address

By MARK WHITEHOUSE

BLOOMBERG VIEW

Donald Trump's knack for keeping his message simple—some would say dumbing it down—will likely be on display this week when he addresses the nation as its 45th president. If so, he'll fit right in with his predecessors.

Since the days of George Washington, the inaugural address has provided an opportunity for presidents to set a tone and lay out goals for the coming term. In its use of language, it can also indicate the level at which the speaker is trying to connect with the electorate.

To get a sense of the linguistic precedent that Trump's predecessors have set, I ran more than two centuries of inaugural speeches through an online evaluator, which considers such variables as vocabulary and sentence length and spits out the estimated grade level required to comprehend the text. Anything above 12 indicates college-level complexity. Above 18 or so the reader would need a graduate degree.

While some presidents stand out—George Washington and John Adams had the highest scores, George H.W. Bush had the lowest—the long-term trend was by far the most striking. From the late 18th century, the estimated grade level required to understand inaugural addresses declined more or less steadily, from far beyond graduate school to about 10th grade.

To be sure, the trend might have something to do with the ability of 21st-century algorithms to deal with 18th-century turns of phrase. That said, it's also consistent with the way presidential communication has changed in the ages of radio, television and Twitter. Although this undoubtedly indicates some dumbing down, it also suggests that the country's leaders have gotten better at reaching a population that, for the most part, lacks a college degree.

Judging from Trump's past speeches, his inaugural address probably won't score too differently from those of recent presidents. The evaluator assessed his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention, for example, as accessible to a 10th-grader.

Factually and ethically challenged as Trump may be, he knows how to connect.

Mark Whitehouse writes editorials on global economics and finance for Bloomberg View. Readers may email him at mwhitehouse1@bloomberg.net.

Michelle Obama's lessons about composing a life

One of the books that I remember most vividly from my college years was Mary Catherine Bateson's "Composing a Life." Bateson, the daughter of legendary anthropologists Margaret Mead and Gregory Bateson, posited in her book that life is "an improvisational art at every age."

I thought of Bateson's book a lot as I spent the last year compiling a collection of essays about the legacy of our most recent first lady. Because at the end of the day, I think what has given Michelle Obama so much universal appeal, why her approval ratings have stayed high to the very end, why she has across-the-aisle appeal is because Michelle Obama has come to represent an agility and an authenticity that is of incredible value to women today.

The lessons she has taught us about composing a life are ones that will stay with us, and with our daughters, for decades to come.

Lessons like the importance of putting yourself first—even when you are a mother and a wife, maybe especially when you're in the midst of marriage or motherhood.

"I have freed myself to put me on the priority list and say, 'Yes, I can make choices that make me happy, and it will ripple and benefit my kids, my husband, and my physical health,'" the first lady told *Prevention* magazine. "That's hard for women to own; we're not taught to do that. It's a lesson that I want to teach my girls so they don't wait for their aha moment until they're in their 30s like I was (laughs). Maybe they can experience it a little earlier."

Or when she turned 50 and said, "I have never felt more confident in myself, more clear on who I am as a woman. But I am constantly thinking about my own health and making sure that I'm eating right and getting exercise and watching the aches and pains. I want to be this really fly 80-, 90-year-old."

I, for one, am saving this particular nugget for when my 9-year-old hits her teens and starts dating: "Cute's good. But cute only lasts for so long, and then it's, 'Who are you as a person?'" Obama told *Glamour* magazine. "Don't look at the bankbook or

By VERONICA CHAMBERS

The Dallas Morning News

Veronica Chambers the author of The Meaning of Michelle: 16 Writers on the Iconic First Lady and How Her Journey Inspires Our Own. She wrote this column for The Dallas Morning News.



the title. Look at the heart. Look at the soul. When you're dating a man, you should always feel good. ... You shouldn't be in a relationship with somebody who doesn't make you completely happy and make you feel whole."

As we move forward into a new administration and a new moment in American history, it is clear that there is much work to be done on both sides of the aisle. If our only tasks in the months ahead were to heal and uplift the Americans who need it most—regardless of where we think they live or what they look like—it would be a staggering challenge.

Throughout her time in the White House, Obama, the daughter of a blue-collar worker who struggled with multiple sclerosis and yet still managed to work every day of his life to put his son and daughter through college, reminded us that the ability to work is a gift. The capability to nurture a dream inside of all that hard work is our uniquely American birthright. I believe we'll all be able to draw sustenance from her words in the months to come.

"You may not always have a comfortable life," she once told an audience of young women, gathered at the White House, "and you will not always be able to solve all the world's problems at once, but don't ever underestimate the power you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own."

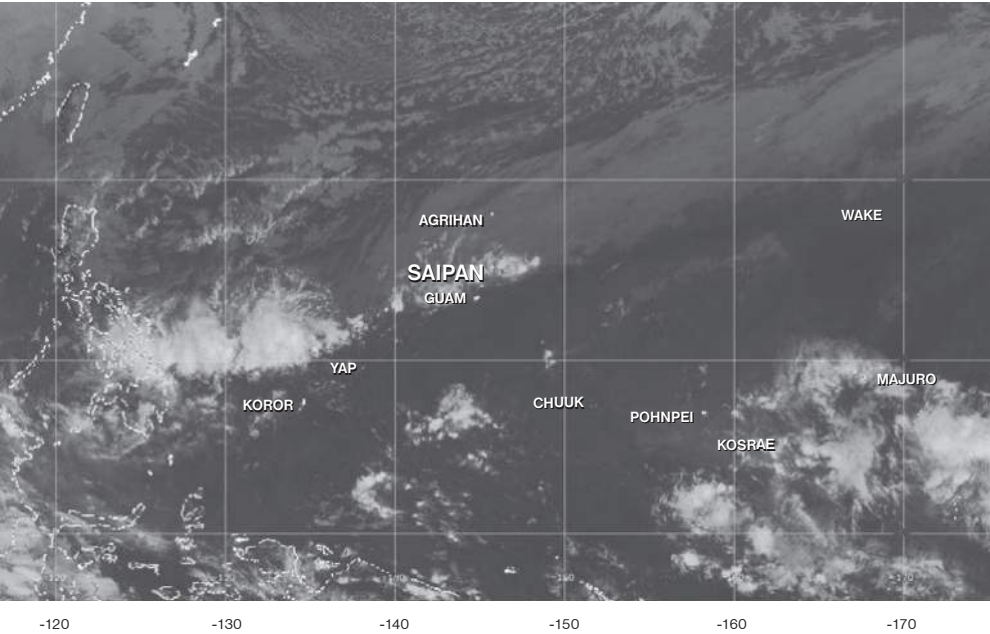
As we continue the very necessary business of composing our lives against a changing and tumultuous backdrop of politics and economics, we might do well to start there with Michelle Obama and her benediction of courage and hope.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy and windy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Partly sunny and windy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 30 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:38 AM, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows a band of scattered showers within the waters of the CNMI. Only isolated showers are moving through the Guam waters at this time. The VAD wind profile reveals variable winds of less than 8 knots through the lowest 7 thousand feet of the air, turning from east near the surface toward the southwest aloft. Satellite shows very little convection across western Micronesia with no significant weather systems.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Rain	83° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 78°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Majuro	Showers	85° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	70° / 59°
Beijing	Windy	32° / 16°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	73° / 61°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	80° / 70°
London	Mostly Sunny	43° / 34°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	62° / 53°
Manila	Mostly Sunny	88° / 73°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	73° / 61°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	79° / 63°
New York	Cloudy	45° / 38°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	52° / 36°
Paris	Sunny	39° / 23°
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	48° / 34°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	52° / 34°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	73° / 55°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	32° / 8°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	39° / 25°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	50° / 36°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	56° / 40°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:41 AM	LOW TIDE		0.24
12:20 PM	HIGH TIDE		1.88
6:57 PM	LOW TIDE		0.76
11:56 PM	HIGH TIDE		1.41

	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:47 AM	6:08 PM
Thursday	6:47 AM	6:08 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM

	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	10:56 AM	11:22 PM
Thursday	-	11:36 AM	-
Friday	12:10 AM	12:15 PM	-
Saturday	12:58 AM	12:55 PM	-
Sunday	1:45 AM	1:36 PM	-

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 17, 2017

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:35am	6:25am	1, 2, 7
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW308	3:05am	6:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:30pm	9:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)			
7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:55am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	4, 7
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
UO42	1:40am	5:00am	2, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/723	3:50am	12:50pm	Daily via ICN
PR1572/318	5:45am	12:20pm	4, 7 via MNL
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	9:50am	3:20pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	1, 6, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TW307	8:45pm	2:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN			
7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
PR307/1571	6:20pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30AM	6:45AM	Daily	SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
			5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

Business

Who are the 8 richest people? All men, mostly Americans

LONDON (AP)—The eight individuals who own as much as half of the rest of the planet are all men, and have largely made their fortunes in technology. Most are American, with one European and one Mexican in the mix. Several have pledged to give it all to charity. The eight tycoons' net worth, as calculated by

Forbes magazine, was cited Monday by anti-poverty activists Oxfam in a report highlighting income inequality. Although most of them will not be joining the annual meeting of business and political elites in the Swiss town of Davos this week, the extraordinary individual wealth they typify will be

part of the gathering's discussions on inequality.

Here's a look at who they are.

Bill Gates: \$75 billion

The man whose name is a byword for billionaire. Gates co-founded Microsoft in the mid-70s, growing it into the world's biggest software company and helping to make computers a household item.



He quit as CEO in 2000 and pledged to devote his fortune to his philanthropic activities in the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. He has gradually reduced his ownership in Microsoft to less than 3 percent, with the bulk of his wealth in a private firm. He's the only one on the list who's a regular at Davos.

Amancio Ortega: \$67 billion

The richest person in Europe, Ortega opened the first Zara fashion shop in 1975. Now, the chain, part of Ortega's Inditex group, has 7,000 shops globally. Its boom in popularity



is largely due to a low cost model that competes with the likes of H&M. As Zara and Inditex grew in size, Ortega, a Spaniard, held on to a majority stake of 59 percent in the company, which has a market value of over 97 billion euros (\$102 billion).

Warren Buffett: \$60.8 billion

The Oracle of Omaha, as he's known for the way his every investment decision is followed by thousands. Buffett began investing as a teenager in the 1940s and gradually grew his firm, Berkshire Hathaway. Buffett, 86, is notoriously frugal and favors investing in companies with proven business models over new industries, such as in technology. He's said he will give away the bulk of his wealth to philanthropy. Since 2006, he's been donating blocks of Berkshire stock to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



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Carlos Slim Helu: \$50 billion

The Mexican tycoon owes his fortune to a major ownership in America Movil, a telecommunications multinational worth \$42 billion. He personally owns about 7 percent in the company while his broader family retains a 37 percent stake. He was ranked as the richest person three years ago, but saw his net worth hit by a downturn in Latin American economies. U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's threats to scrap free trade deals and build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border have also hurt shares in his business interests.



Forbes estimates his net worth dropped \$5 billion in the four days after Trump's election.

Jeff Bezos: \$45.2 billion

The founder and CEO of Amazon.com helped revolutionize the retail industry by popularizing online shopping. What was initially an on-line book shop now sells pretty much anything. Bezos has reached beyond Amazon, in which he holds a 17 percent stake, to try his hand in other industries. He's bought the Washington Post and set up an aerospace company, Blue Origin, that aims to make space accessible to tourists and paying customers.



percent stake, to try his hand in other industries. He's bought the Washington Post and set up an aerospace company, Blue Origin, that aims to make space accessible to tourists and paying customers.

Mark Zuckerberg: \$44.6 billion

He founded Facebook in 2004 while a college student to connect other Harvard students. The company went on to become popular globally and listed its shares publicly in 2012, making Zuckerberg, now 32, a multi-billionaire. He's managed to make Facebook profitable where rivals like Twitter have lagged, and expanded it with targeted acquisitions. He and his wife have pledged to sell 99 percent of their holdings in Facebook—over 400 million shares, worth about \$50 billion—to support philan-



thropic causes. As a young programmer in the '70s, Ellison's first big client was the CIA. The name of the project was "Oracle." In 1977, Ellison and associates used that name for their company, which creates software that helps manage databases and has since become an industry standard. Ellison has recently focused more on cloud computing, in which data is stored and managed across a network of computers. His fortune comes from the 27 percent stake he still owns in Oracle, a company worth \$160 billion.

thropic causes.

Larry Ellison: \$43.6 billion

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Michael Bloomberg: \$40 billion

Created the eponymous financial information provider in 1981 after getting laid off from an investment bank. Bloomberg made it a lucrative business in particular by selling data terminals to financial services firms. The multi-screen terminals became essential tools in the industry, incorporating real-time market information with a news service. Bloomberg, who reportedly retains an 88 percent stake in the privately held company, turned to politics in 2001, becoming mayor of New York City for three terms.



in the industry, incorporating real-time market information with a news service. Bloomberg, who reportedly retains an 88 percent stake in the privately held company, turned to politics in 2001, becoming mayor of New York City for three terms.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

UK's May signals EU clean break: no 'half-in, half-out'

LONDON (AP)—Britain will make a clean break from the European Union and not seek to remain "half-in, half-out," Prime Minister Theresa May will say Tuesday, disappointing businesses and voters who want the country to stay in the bloc's single market. In her most detailed speech on the U.K.'s exit strategy, May will promise to forge "a new and equal partnership" with the EU. "Not partial membership of the European Union, associate membership of the European Union, or anything that leaves us half-in, half-out," she plans to say, according to excerpts released by her office. "We do not seek to adopt a model already enjoyed by other countries. We do not seek to hold on to bits of membership as we leave." May's speech appears to rule out the sort of close ties adopted by non-EU members Switzerland or Norway. It's likely to be another shock for the beleaguered pound, which hit a three-month low below \$1.20 Monday amid hints that May would signal an economy-roiling "hard Brexit."

AP Source: GM to announce \$1B factory investment, new jobs

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors will announce a \$1 billion investment in its factories that will create or keep around 1,000 jobs, a person briefed on the matter said Monday. The Detroit automaker will make the announcement Tuesday morning. The investment is part of the normal process of equipping factories to build new models, and it's been planned for months, the person told The Associated Press. The person didn't want to be identified because the announcement hasn't been made yet. Multiple factories will get part of the money, but GM does not plan to state where the new jobs will go, according to the person. The company plans to use the announcement to tout both blue-collar and white-collar U.S.

jobs it has created in recent years, the person said. The announcement comes after President-elect Donald Trump has attacked GM and other automakers for building vehicles in Mexico and shipping them to the U.S. Earlier this month, Trump threatened on Twitter to tax GM for importing the compact Chevrolet Cruze. While GM builds hatchback Cruzes in Mexico, most Cruze sales are Ohio-built sedans.

IMF boosts growth forecast for US, cites Trump impact

WASHINGTON (AP)—The International Monetary Fund on Monday raised its forecast for the U.S. economy over the next two years, saying President-elect Donald Trump's policies should boost economic growth, particularly in 2018. But officials warned that if Trump's protectionist trade proposals set off a trade war, that could be "quite destructive" for the global economy. The IMF also increased 2017 growth projections for a number of other countries including China, Germany, Japan and Britain, but warned that the global economy faced a number of downside risks from rising protectionism to a jump in interest rates. The 189-nation global lending agency's latest economic outlook took note of the significant impact Trump's election has already had in giving a boost to U.S. stock prices, interest rates and the dollar. The new outlook puts U.S. economic growth at 2.3 percent this year and 2.5 percent in 2018. That would be an improvement from lackluster U.S. growth around 1.6 percent in 2016. During the campaign, Trump said his economic policies of tax cuts, regulatory reform and boosts in infrastructure spending would lift U.S. growth to annual rates of 4 percent. The new forecast represents a boost of 0.1 percentage point this year and an increase of 0.4 percentage point for 2018, when Trump's stimulus plans would be expected to be phased in.

China's Xi takes spotlight at Davos as US makes transition

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP)—Communist China is taking the world's most elite annual gathering by storm.

President Xi Jinping leads a Chinese delegation of over 100 officials and scores of business executives attending the World Economic Forum, embodying a tectonic shift at an event that started nearly a half-century ago among Europeans and Americans.

Xi's opening plenary address Tuesday to political and business leaders is shaping up as perhaps the highlight both of this year's WEF and Xi's one-country European visit to ultra-stable and chronically neutral Switzerland.

It comes as mainstream Western democratic leaders have been grappling with populist movements at home, including the one that helped

undergird Donald Trump's U.S. presidential election victory. Trump's clique plans to have only one top adviser, Anthony Scaramucci, attending the forum ahead of Friday's presidential inauguration.

Such transitions have given an opening for Xi, who arrived by train in the Alpine snows of Davos to a red-carpet welcome Monday, to project political stability while drumming up business for China.

The bumpy run-up to the Trump administration—Trump's poll numbers are low for an incoming president—has given the Chinese leader a convenient opportunity to advance his goal of giving his country a more assertive leadership role on the world stage.

China previously sought to capture the mantle as a sup-

porter of world trade after Trump said he would pull the United States out of the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal championed by President Barack Obama.

Chinese media have trumpeted Xi's moves in the global arena as a force for stability. But analysts say he isn't likely to address Trump straight on.

"People will be asking, 'Will he say anything about Trump?'" Steve Tsang, director of SOAS China Institute in London, said. "He would want to play his cards close to his chest at this stage. It would not make sense for him to say anything about Trump at the moment."

Francois Godement, head of the Asia and China program at the European Council on Foreign Relations, said the Chinese are "extremely careful

about what they say about the incoming Trump presidency."

"I think right now they must be very busy watching and wondering what will come next," Godement said. "But I have no doubt that he (Xi) will try to portray China as open, corporatist, stable, predictable, reliable on a number of global issues. Even if he doesn't cite the Trump administration, he'll try to project a contrast."

Xi is the first Chinese head of state to visit Davos, and he will be trailed by four government ministers.

Russia also will be represented, with two deputy prime ministers and dozens of business leaders attending the gathering. When the first Davos conference took place in 1971, it was all about European leaders trying to tap into U.S. business acumen.

Nation



The U.S. Capitol looms over a stage during a rehearsal of President-elect Donald Trump's swearing-in ceremony, Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017, in Washington.

AP

Parties, protests to take over DC for Trump's inauguration

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hundreds of thousands of people are expected to clog the nation's capital for Donald Trump's inauguration and a major demonstration the day after. How many will actually arrive to party or protest is an open question.

Officials estimate that 800,000 to 900,000 people will be present Friday for the inauguration, a celebration that takes over the city, closing roads, taxing the city's Metro transit system and making getting around difficult. Trump himself has promised "massive crowds," but just what that will mean is unclear.

Hundreds of thousands of others are expected Saturday for the Women's March on Washington.

Trump showed he could

draw crowds during the campaign, but his supporters weren't so quick to make plans to be in Washington for his inauguration.

Elliott Ferguson, the president of Destination DC, the city's convention and tourism bureau, said that before Election Day hotels had more events tentatively planned for a Hillary Clinton victory than a Donald Trump one. And when Trump won, the "level of enthusiasm" and demand for hotel rooms did not immediately reach that of past recent inaugurations, he said.

"No one's phones were ringing" on the day after the election, he said.

Things started to pick up after New Year's, but some hotels have cut back minimum-night stays from four nights

to two. Some hotels are only 50 percent full, though higher-end hotels apparently have more bookings, he said.

"It's been much, much slower than anyone would have anticipated for a first-term president," he said.

Saturday's march has helped drive more reservations, he said.

"The moment it was confirmed it was happening in the city our hotels were seeing reservations take place," he said.

City planners are betting that Trump's inauguration is more like President Barack Obama's second inauguration in 2013, which drew more than 800,000, rather than Obama's first in 2009, which drew 1.8 million people. But while officials have experi-

ence and historical data to draw on to estimate crowds for Friday, guessing how many people will show up for Saturday's demonstration is harder. Women's March on Washington organizers said in applying for a demonstration permit that they expected 200,000 people.

Christopher Geldart, the District of Columbia's homeland security director, thinks the march will draw more than that. Some 1,800 buses have registered to park in the city on Saturday, which would mean nearly 100,000 people coming in just by bus, Geldart said. Amtrak trains into and out of the city are also fully booked on that day, Geldart said.

"Usually when I look at things like that, that tells me

we've got a pretty substantial crowd coming in. That leads me to believe we're definitely above the 200,000-person mark," Geldart said.

In contrast, approximately 400 buses have registered to park in the city on Inauguration Day, said Terry Owens, a spokesman for the District Department of Transportation, though he said that number is growing daily.

For their part, march organizers are trying to get a headcount by asking people who plan to participate to fill out a questionnaire on their website. That will help ensure they have the right number of things like portable toilets, medical tents and food trucks, said Janaye Ingram, who is handling march logistics. More than 100,000 people

have already registered using the form, Ingram said.

Rally, a New York City-based transportation company that connects people with bus rides to events, has organized many of the buses coming to Washington for Saturday's march. The tally includes buses from more than 200 cities in 26 states. The company's president and co-founder, Siheun Song, said the northeastern portion of the United States has "largely become sold out of motor coaches" for the day. Demand is so great the company is using school buses to bring people to the march from Maryland, she said.

"In six years of doing business we've never seen buses get sold out so quickly," she said.



ACROSS THE NATION

Gene Cernan, last astronaut to walk on the moon, dies at 82

HOUSTON (AP)—Astronaut Gene Cernan traced his only child's initials in the dust of the lunar surface. Then he climbed into the lunar module for the ride home, becoming the last person to walk on the moon. It was a moment that defined the Apollo 17 com-

mander in both the public eye and his own. "Those steps up that ladder, they were tough to make," Cernan recalled in a 2007 oral history. "I didn't want to go up. I wanted to stay a while." His family said his devotion to lunar exploration never waned, even in the final year of his life. Cernan died Monday at age 82 at a Houston hospital following

ongoing health issues, family spokeswoman Melissa Wren told The Associated Press. "Even at the age of 82, Gene was passionate about sharing his desire to see the continued human exploration of space and encouraged our nation's leaders and young people to not let him remain the last man to walk on the Moon," his family wrote in a

statement released by NASA.

On Dec. 14, 1972, Cernan became the last of only a dozen men to walk on the moon.

Officials: FBI arrests widow of Orlando nightclub shooter

WASHINGTON (AP)—The wife of the Orlando nightclub shooter, who was extensively questioned by federal agents

in the days after the massacre, was arrested Monday by the FBI in connection with the attack, authorities said. Noor Salman was taken into custody in the San Francisco Bay Area and is facing charges in Florida, including obstruction of justice. She will make her initial court appearance Tuesday morn-

ing in Oakland, according to a Twitter post from the United States attorney's office. After her husband, Omar Mateen, was killed in a shootout with SWAT team members during the June 12 massacre at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Salman, 30, moved back to California, where she had grown up.

Asia

Abe says Japan will provide Vietnam patrol vessels

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Japan will provide Vietnam new patrol vessels, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Monday on the last stop

of his four-nation tour to boost his country's trade and security engagements in Asia amid China's rising dominance.

"The two countries will

further strengthen security and defense cooperation and this time Japan has decided to provide (Vietnam with) newly built patrol vessels

at Vietnam's request," Abe said at a news conference in Hanoi with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc. "We will strongly sup-

port Vietnam's strengthening its maritime law-enforcement capabilities."

Vietnam already has six used patrol vessels provided by Japan and how many were in the fresh offer wasn't mentioned.

Both countries have maritime disputes with China—Vietnam in the South China Sea and Japan in the East China Sea.

The two leaders called for the upholding of international law in resolving disputes in the South China Sea.

"The two sides agreed on the importance of ensuring peace, security and safety of maritime navigation and overflight in the East Sea, promoting the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, no use of force or threat to use force," Phuc told reporters, referring to the South China Sea by Vietnamese term.

Phuc said Abe has committed to give Vietnam more development assistance amounting to 123 billion yen (\$1.05 billion) in the fiscal year of 2016 for maritime security, responding to climate change and water treatment.

It's not clear whether the new loans will cover the pur-

chase of new patrol vessels.

The two leaders also pledged to deepen their two countries' strategic partnership.

Japan is one of Vietnam's top investors and trading partners and is the communist country's single largest bilateral donor.

In a separate news conference later Monday, Abe said free trade is essential for countries to prosper.

"We must create free, fair and rules-based markets. Once again on this trip I confirm that we should all aim at the early entry into force of TPP that can be regarded as a standard for such markets," he said referring to the 12-nation Trans Pacific Partnership trade pact that includes the United States, Japan and Vietnam.

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump has vowed to scrap the deal on his first day in office, putting the trade deal in doubt.

Abe who met with Trump right after his election win last November said he hoped to meet with Trump "as soon as possible."

The Japanese leaders also said that he hoped the United States will stick to its commitment to the region under the new administration.

After 3 years, MH370 search ends with no plane, few answers

SYDNEY (AP)—After nearly three years, the hunt for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 ended in futility and frustration Tuesday, as crews completed their deep-sea search of a desolate stretch of the Indian Ocean without finding a trace of the plane.

The Joint Agency Coordina-

tion Center in Australia, which has helped lead the \$160 million hunt for the Boeing 777 in remote waters west of Australia, said the search had officially been suspended after crews finished their fruitless sweep of the 120,000-square kilometer (46,000-square mile) search zone.

"Despite every effort using the best science available, cutting-edge technology, as well as modelling and advice from highly skilled professionals who are the best in their field, unfortunately, the search has not been able to locate the aircraft," the agency said in a statement. "Accordingly, the

underwater search for MH370 has been suspended."

Officials investigating the plane's disappearance have recommended search crews head north to a new area identified in a recent analysis as a possible crash site. But the Australian government has already nixed that idea.

Key numbers in the mystery of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The Indian Ocean search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 has been suspended almost three years after the Boeing 777 vanished. Here's a look at some numbers associated with the tragic mystery:

40: Number of minutes Flight 370 had been flying before air traffic control lost contact with the plane on March 8, 2014. The plane was on a flight from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing when it

disappeared from radar and communications and went off course for reasons that remain unknown. Investigators used automatic signals sent to a satellite to determine the plane had flown thousands of miles to the eastern Indian Ocean before crashing.

239: Lives lost in the disaster—227 passengers and 12 crew. Most of the victims—152—were Chinese.

3: Countries most involved in the search: Malaysia, Chi-

na and Australia. The plane is believed to have crashed closest to Australia's shores.

27: Number of months spent on the search, which took longer than initially expected, mainly because of hostile winter weather.

\$160 MILLION: Amount of money spent on the search. Australia has agreed to pay \$60 million and China \$20 million. Malaysia has paid \$80 million and has agreed to pay the balance of the final search cost.

120,000: Size of search area in square kilometers (46,000 square miles). The search initially only covered half as much ocean, but an announcement was made on the first anniversary of the tragedy that the search area would be doubled.

1,800: Distance in kilometers (1,100 miles) from the search area to the search ships' port in Fremantle, Australia. Traveling between the two takes a week.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines has filed a low-key diplomatic protest with China after a U.S. think tank reported that Beijing appears to have installed anti-aircraft and anti-missile weapons on its man-made islands in the strategically vital South China Sea, the country's top diplomat said Monday.

Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay said the diplomatic communication was issued after the report came out last month.

The Center for Strategic and International Studies report said anti-aircraft guns and weapons systems designed to guard against missile attacks appear to have been placed on all seven of China's newly created islands.

Yasay told CNN Philippines that Manila had responded, but did so quietly.

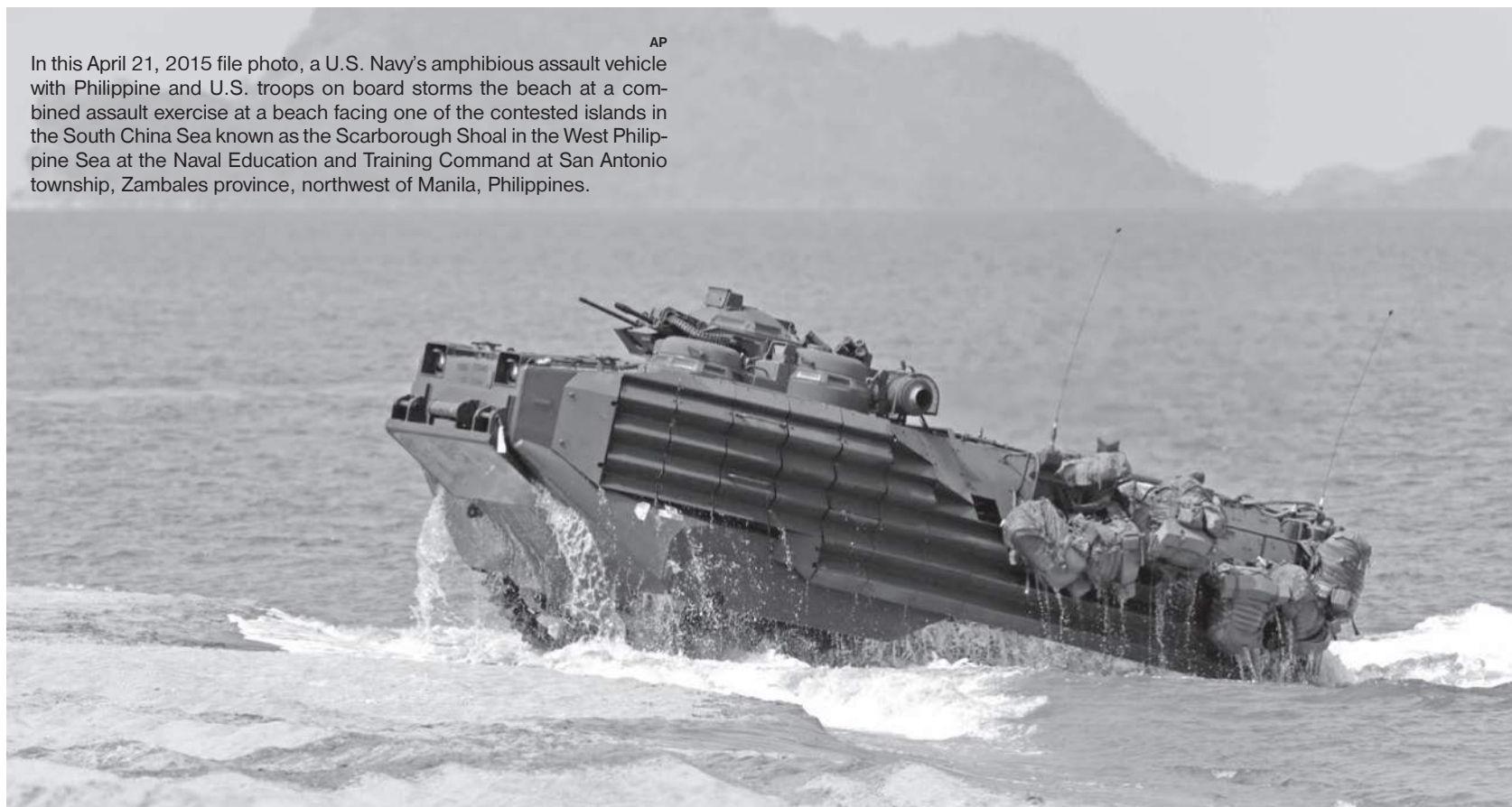
"We have taken action on that, we have issued a note verbale," he said, referring to a diplomatic communication that is issued in the third person and is not signed. It is considered less formal than a letter of protest.

He did not say when it was issued, adding it was a matter that he did not want to discuss.

"I just want to assure the Filipino people that when

Philippines protests China's weapons installation on islands

In this April 21, 2015 file photo, a U.S. Navy's amphibious assault vehicle with Philippine and U.S. troops on board storms the beach at a combined assault exercise at a beach facing one of the contested islands in the South China Sea known as the Scarborough Shoal in the West Philippine Sea at the Naval Education and Training Command at San Antonio township, Zambales province, northwest of Manila, Philippines.



we take action at engaging China in this dispute, we do not want to take such aggressive, provocative action that will not solve the problem," he said. "We cannot engage China in a war."

Nevertheless, he said, "when

there are reports about the build-up of weapon systems in the area, during our watch we made sure that the interests and rights of the Philippines are properly protected."

Beijing says the artificial islands are intended to boost

maritime safety in the region while downplaying their military utility. They also buttress China's claim to ownership of practically the entire South China Sea.

Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Bru-

nei also claim territory in the waterway, through which an estimated \$5 trillion in global trade passes each year.

After China took control of disputed Scarborough Shoal in 2012 and blocked Filipinos from the rich fishing area, then

President Benigno Aquino III brought his country's territorial disputes with Beijing to international arbitration. China ignored the Philippine case and refused to recognize the outcome, which was heavily in favor of the Philippines.

World

Brazil struggles to curb prison violence that has killed 125

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Brazilian authorities are scrambling to stop a wave of prison violence that has killed at least 125 inmates in two weeks, many with their heads cut off or their hearts and intestines ripped out.

Three massacres and many smaller fatal clashes, all in northern states, have followed a pattern that security forces have been unable to get ahead of. It starts with an hours-long riot inside a penitentiary, then military police are sent in to assist severely outnumbered guards and distraught families wait outside while inmates post on social media photos they take of chopped up body parts.

The factors fueling the violence among rival gang members are so complex that authorities say some potential remedies could exacerbate the problem. And the possibility of continued killings is raising fears the violence could spill into favelas, or slums, in major cities like Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, where drug operations are run in conjunction with bosses in prisons.

“Stopping the bloodshed begins with the federal and state governments calling this what it is: a public emergency,” said Robert Muggah, research director for the Igarape Institute, a Brazil-based think tank that focuses on security. “This is a problem from hell that has been festering for half a century.”

President Michel Temer was initially slow to respond, taking three days to publicly acknowledge the first massacre, and he was ridiculed for calling it a “terrible accident.” But the government has since announced a series of measures aimed at stopping the violence.

National guard troops are being dispatched to hot spots,

thousands of inmates are being shuffled among prisons and Temer has announced plans to build five new lockups. Meanwhile, justice authorities are examining ways to speed up a legal process that keeps thousands locked up for months or years while their cases are processed.

Nothing seems to be working so far. After several days of relative calm, 26 inmates were killed late Saturday in clashes inside two adjoining prisons in the northern state of Rio Grande do Norte. Authorities said members of the Sao Paulo-based First Command, Brazil’s largest criminal gang

known by the Portuguese acronym PCC, fought with local gang Crime Syndicate of Rio Grande do Norte.

Authorities said military police would not enter the prisons until daylight Sunday because it was too dangerous.

“There are more than 1,000 prisoners, all out of their cells,

and some are armed,” military police Maj. Wellington Camilo da Silva told reporters. “What we are doing now is trying to avoid a massive escape.”

Prisoners returned to their cells by Sunday, and police found 26 bodies, many of them decapitated.

The wave of violence began with the arrival of the new year, when 56 inmates were killed in the northern state of Amazonas. Authorities said the Family of the North gang targeted members of the First Command in a clash over control of drug-trafficking routes in northern states. Many were decapitated, their heads tossed outside prison walls.

Then on Jan. 6, in the neighboring state of Roraima, 33 prisoners were killed, many with their hearts and intestines ripped out. Authorities said First Command members instigated the bloodshed against other prisoners for motives not entirely clear.

Ten other inmates were killed in smaller prison clashes in Amazonas and the northeastern state of Paraiba during the first few days of the month.

The central problem that authorities are trying to address is extreme overcrowding, which exacerbates squalid conditions that include infestations of rats and poisonous centipedes.

Brazil had 622,000 prisoners in 2014, compared to 233,000 in 2000, according to Ministry of Justice data. Brazil’s prisons combined were built to house roughly half the current number.

While new facilities would help ease overcrowding, it could take years to build them.

A more realistic option would be to reduce the number of people behind bars, experts say. Several studies have found that around 40 percent of Brazil’s inmates have not even been convicted and are in cells waiting for their cases to be heard. Many of them survive by joining gangs, which recruit members while providing protection and financial support.

Last week, Chief Supreme Court Justice Carmen Lucia called on authorities in each state to undertake an expedited analysis of all inmates who have not been convicted. Lucia said the idea wasn’t to release people, but determine cases in which house arrest would be feasible.

Any large-scale release would likely be met with sharp resistance from politicians and citizens, however. “A good criminal is a dead criminal” is a common phrase in a country where violence permeates daily life.



This Jan. 18, 2016 photo attained by the Associated Press, shows prisoners in a crowded cell, some on the floor, at the Instituto Penal Placido de Sa Carvalho in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Inside the lockups, survival often depends on gang protection and financial help. A slow legal system means a large percentage of prisoners wait years for their cases are heard.

Reports: police question Istanbul nightclub attacker

ISTANBUL (AP)—Police on Tuesday began questioning a suspected Islamic State militant accused of killing 39 people during a New Year’s attack on an Istanbul nightclub, Turkish media reports said.

The gunman, which the media reports identified as Uzbekistan national Abdulgadir Masharipov, was caught late Monday in a police operation at a luxury residential complex in Istanbul.

The state-run Anadolu Agency said a man from Kyrgyzstan and three women - from Somalia, Senegal and Egypt - were also detained in the raid, while the gunman’s 4-year-old son was taken under protective custody.

The Islamic State group had claimed responsibility for the nightclub massacre, saying the attack in the first hours of Jan. 1 was in reprisal for Turkish military operations in northern Syria. The man identified as the suspect had been on the run since the attack.

Private NTV television said Masharipov and the four other suspects were being

questioned at Istanbul’s police headquarters on Tuesday. Istanbul’s governor and police chief were scheduled to make a statement later on Tuesday.

Anadolu said police have also carried out raids on members of a suspected Uzbek IS cell in five Istanbul neighborhoods, and detained several people.

Authorities had set up a 1000-person force to capture the gunman, Anadolu said.

Photographs from raids, widely published in the Turkish media, showed a bruised, black-haired man in a grey, bloodied shirt being held by his neck. NTV television said the gunman had resisted arrest.

Hundreds of people were gathered at the swanky Reina nightclub to celebrate the end of a tumultuous 2016 only to become the first victims of 2017. The gunman shot a police officer and a civilian outside the club, before storming the premises.

Most of the dead in the attack on the upscale club were foreign nationals, mainly from the Middle East.

Defiant EU nations ready themselves for Trump presidency

BRUSSELS (AP)—European Union nations bracing for the looming Donald Trump presidency showed defiance Monday in the face of the president-elect’s stinging comments on everything from NATO and German cars to the crumbling of the EU itself.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said the U.S. president-elect’s view that NATO was obsolete and his criticism that European allied members aren’t paying their fair share had “caused astonishment.”

Trump also said Britain’s decision to leave the 28-nation

European Union would “end up being a great thing,” and he predicted that other countries would also leave.

At a meeting of EU ministers, French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said the best response to such comments was simple—“it is the unity of the Europeans.”

In Berlin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel insisted: “We Europeans have our fate in our own hands.”

“I’m personally going to wait until the American president takes office, and then we will naturally work with him on all levels,” she

told reporters.

French President Francois Hollande was even more outspoken in his defiance.

Europe “has no need for outside advice to tell it what to do,” Hollande said at a ceremony for outgoing U.S. ambassador in Paris Jane Hartley.

“Europe will always be willing to pursue trans-Atlantic cooperation, but it will base its decisions on its interests and its values,” he added.

Some EU officials fear Trump’s frequent, often acerbic Twitter postings might be the prelude to a caustic presidency after Fri-

day’s inauguration.

“We are going to move away from, I guess, a kind of Twitter diplomacy, and then into a reality,” said Danish Foreign Minister Anders Samuelsen, adding that reality could be “perhaps more difficult than what is going on on Twitter.”

EU foreign ministers were already worried what Trump might do beyond their continent. They came out against any plan by Trump to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem and warned that it could ratchet up tensions with the Arab world.

Focus

Teen slain in 'rape-murder fantasy' was friend to the lonely

A distraught Rose Hunsicker, center, the biological mother of Grace Packer, is escorted to the church by members of her family and members of Bikers Against Child Abuse Monday, Jan. 16, 2017, on her way in to a memorial service for Packer, the local teen who authorities say was killed and dismembered by her adoptive mother and her boyfriend, at the New Life Presbyterian Church in Glenside, Pa.

By MARYCLAIRE DALE and
MICHAEL RUBINKAM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLENSIDE, Pa. (AP)—The smiles radiate from photos posted online by friends: Grace Packer sporting an impish grin as a toddler, floating happily in a pool as a young teen, leaning in to talk to a friend at her school lunch table.

But the 14-year-old posted a more haunting picture, a forlorn selfie taken in a dimly lit room, when she opened a Facebook account last year and invited people to comment on it. No one did.

At the time, police believe, Grace's adoptive mother and the mother's boyfriend were plotting to kill her.

Grace, who moved a lot and had a learning disability, looked out for the lonely kids at school. She befriended Jackie Horst's autistic son, eating lunch with him at Abington Junior High.

"She showed patience for him and kindness toward him,

and he thought she was really pretty and so nice," said Horst, whose son gave Grace flowers on Valentine's Day. "(She) didn't really mind about some of his quirks."

But the friends couldn't see each other outside school in Glenside, near Philadelphia. Horst tried reaching out to Grace's mother, but Sara Packer never responded. The ninth-grader had described the adults at home as "mean" but never said more to Horst's son.

Yet she had endured a lifetime of pain and loss, from sex abuse allegations that led her birthparents to lose custody when she was 3, to the indecent assault that sent her adoptive father to prison when she was 10, to the unimaginable rape-murder fantasy that prosecutors say led Sara Packer and boyfriend Jacob Sullivan to kill Grace in July.

They are due in court Friday for a preliminary hearing.

Despite her home life, Grace's list of favorite things echoed those of dreamy young girls everywhere: the colors purple and pink, butterflies, signing "Gracie" with a heart in place of the dot.

"She was kept isolated," said Nadine Barnett, one of the Abington parents who organized a public memorial for Grace on Monday. "(But she) was a really good friend to people who needed her."

Grace was born Susan Hunsicker on Aug. 14, 2001, to a poor, low-functioning couple living with family in a crowded house in Norris-

Grace's list of favorite things echoed those of dreamy young girls everywhere: the colors purple and pink, butterflies, signing "Gracie" with a heart in place of the dot.

town. Her parents fought to keep their three children, but a Berks County judge terminated their parental rights over reports that other adults were abusing them.

Sara Packer, a Northampton County adoption worker, and her husband, David, took in the two youngest as foster children, then adopted them and renamed the 3-year-old Grace. The Packers would go on to foster 30 children as they

hopscoched around northeast Pennsylvania for a decade.

That came to a halt in 2010 when a foster teen told authorities she had seen pictures on David Packer's phone of him having sex with another foster child.

The 18-year-old victim eventually told Allentown police that the sex had been ongoing since she was 15, and that Sara Packer knew of it

by the end. Police also determined that 9-year-old Grace had been molested over several years. Sara Packer lost her job as an adoption supervisor, and David Packer, who had worked at a paintball facility, went to prison for five years.

By 2015, Sara Packer was living with Sullivan, a draftsman, and working at a call center.

Grace had been sent to

North Carolina to live with a relative in January 2015. Photos posted on a memorial Facebook page show breezy summer memories as Grace holds hands with a friend in the ocean, tries miniature golf and bounces off a diving board.

But the relative's situation changed, and Grace returned to her mother that November. "They wanted to ship her out, and when that failed, they plotted to kill her," said Bucks County Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Schorn.

Grace was last seen at a Fourth of July picnic last year. Four days later, Sara Packer watched as Sullivan—after taking Viagra—raped her daughter, police said.

They sedated Grace and left her to die, bound and gagged, in their sweltering attic of a new rental in Quakertown, according to a police affidavit. When they found her alive the next day, Sullivan strangled her, police said. Sara Packer reported Grace missing July 11, but failed to drop off a photo to Abington police or give them her new address.

According to the affidavit, the couple left her body in the

Quakertown house for several months packed in cat litter.

When police tracked them down that fall, they got to work disposing of the body, the affidavit said. They removed the girl's limbs and dumped the body upstate, where hunters found it on Halloween, authorities said.

As police closed in on them last month, Sara Packer and Sullivan forged a suicide pact, authorities said. They were found unconscious from an apparent drug overdose Dec. 30. Sullivan opened up about the killing at the hospital a week later, police said.

"I'm sorry for what I did," he said when he was led into court on Jan. 8. "It was wrong."

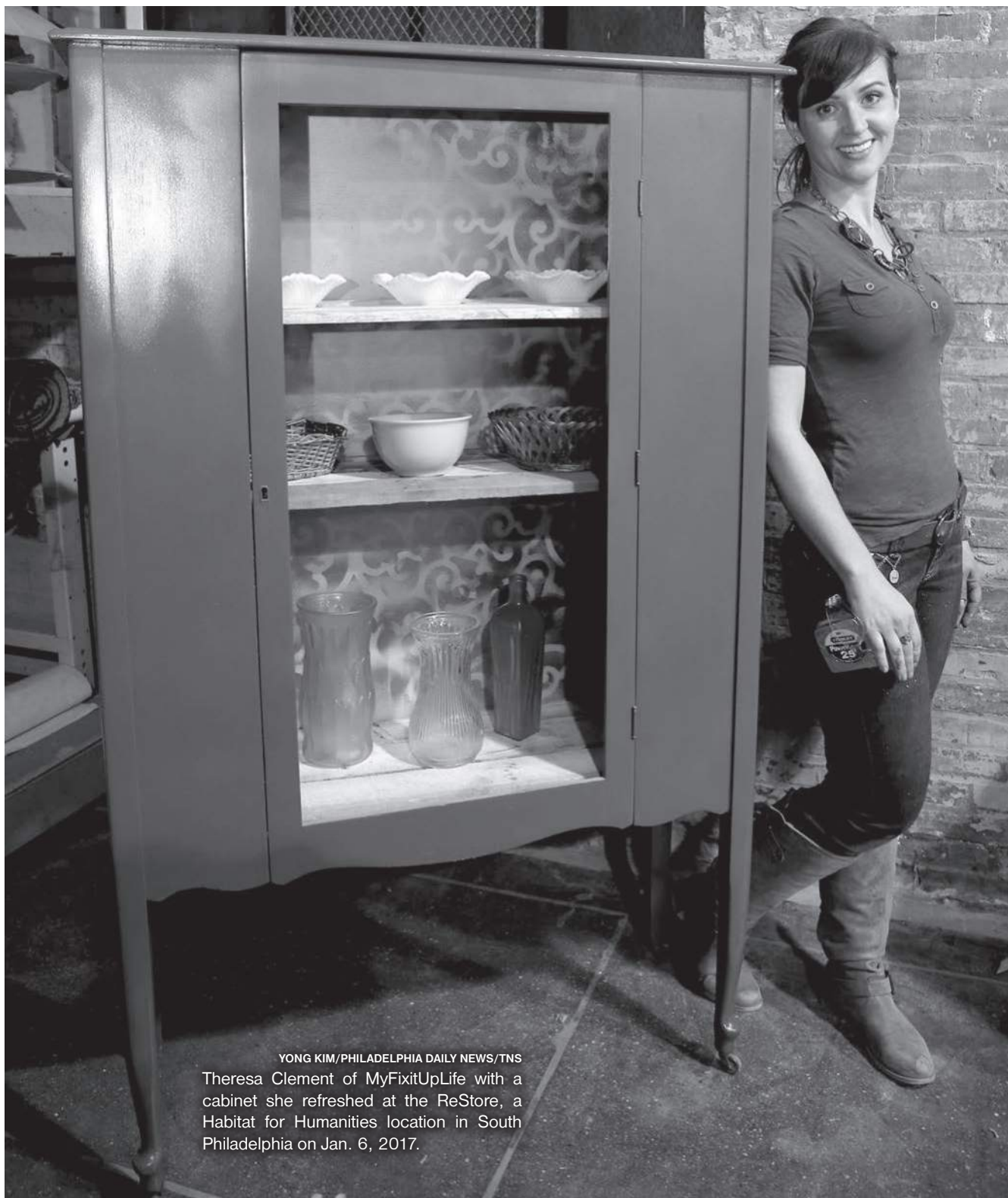
Sara Packer's father and other relatives have declined to comment. She doesn't have a lawyer listed in court records.

Grace's birthmother wonders why authorities left her daughter with Sara Packer.

"All these years, I figured that she was growing up to be a regular teenager," Rose Hunsicker told WFMZ-TV. "I trusted this woman to take care of something so precious to me."

Good Housekeeping

Philly DIY pro Theresa Clement shows us how



YONG KIM/PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS/TNS
Theresa Clement of MyFixItUpLife with a cabinet she refreshed at the ReStore, a Habitat for Humanity location in South Philadelphia on Jan. 6, 2017.

By SAMANTHA MELAMED
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PHILADELPHIA—In the showroom of the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, the warehouse-size furniture thrift store, there is lots and lots of brown—huge beige couches, vintage wooden dressers, tables and chairs in hues ranging from beige to ochre to umber.

But when Theresa Clements—the Ambler TV personality, designer, DIY expert, and blogger at My Fix It Up Life—walks through, she sees past the drab, old, and worn.

To her, there are potential showstoppers waiting to be revealed, with a few simple—or radical—tweaks and some bold color choices.

That unassuming, boxy little nightstand could be flipped on its side, with a drawer removed, and topped with pallet wood to make a modern coffee table. Take two office chairs,

face them toward each other, saw off the arms, and add a new seat: You have a stylish bench with high, curved arms.

Clements always loved making things as a kid, then she studied architecture and design and began working as a contractor with her husband and collaborator, Mark. But she noticed a scarcity of women on job sites (people often took her for a bookkeeper), and she found many of her friends were afraid to pick up a circular saw.

“A lot of people do a lot of Pinterest, but not a lot of projects.”

She’s on a mission to change that. She got involved with Habitat for Humanity ReStore three years ago, running DIY workshops. Recently, she became a national brand ambassador for the chain.

“It’s amazing: I get to help inspire people to make stuff, and then it helps people have

a place to live,” she said. (The Philadelphia branch raises about \$1 million a year, enough to build two houses and fund seven renovations last year, according to Habitat Philadelphia associate executive director Corinne O’Connell.)

Clements walked us through how she would tackle a do-it-in-one-day thrift-store-find transformation.

1. Find a piece with good bones: something sturdy that’s made of solid wood that won’t fall apart if you tinker with it. Clements selected a mission-style china cabinet (ReStore’s price: \$35) that was missing the glass on its door and all its shelves and had a door that was permanently locked. But it had sweet simple lines. “A lot of people would walk by that and shrug, but it’s well-built,” she said. Her vision: With a few adjustments and a lot of paint, it could be a styl-

ish bookshelf.

2. Gather the supplies you’ll need. For this project, Clements used a drill/screwdriver, a saw (she likes a portable saw called the BladeRunner that costs about \$100, but a miter saw also would work), painter’s tape, fine-grit sandpaper, pallet wood, stain, a drop cloth, cardboard, a tape measure, a level, and screws. She uses spray paint and spray primer, the keys to making a DIY project like this doable in six to eight hours.

3. Clements lightly sanded the cabinet, going with the grain, making it just rough enough to catch the paint. Then she wiped it with a cloth to remove the dust. She spray-painted the entire cabinet with primer. (The key is using quick strokes to lightly dust the surface with paint.) She waited a few minutes and applied a second coat. If she got too close and paint started to pool or drip, she blotted the excess

away with a clean cloth.

4. She lined the back edges of the cabinet with painter’s tape to protect them from paint. Then she used scrap cardboard to shield the interior of the cabinet and gave the exterior a coat of cobalt blue. Again, she spray-painted in quick, light coats. Be sure to read the label on the spray paint to know how long you have to wait before applying a second coat. “If you didn’t use the whole bottle, turn it upside down and spray until it’s clean, and that clears the nozzle. Then, when you go back to it a year later, you can use it again.”

5. While the paint dried, she made shelves out of planks liberated with a saw from old wooden pallets. First, she measured the interior of the cabinet so she could make the planks just a bit shorter and narrower. “Measure in a couple places, because with old pieces of furniture, things can move. It’s always better to go big than small, since you can’t make the material grow.” She cut small scraps of wood into cleats that would hold three planks together and used screws to attach them, turning them into a single shelf. Dis-

posable wood-finishing wipes, newly available at hardware stores, allow you to apply stain quickly and neatly.

6. She spray-painted the interior of the cabinet, too, in a contrasting pale green. Because a piece of decorative scrolled wood from the missing glass cabinet front was lying inside the cabinet, Clements used it to make a quick stencil, creating a wallpaper effect in the back of the cabinet with contrasting spray paint in metallic rose gold.

7. Finally, she cut small blocks of wood to serve as brackets supporting the shelves. She put two screws in each, then attached them to the sides of the interior of the cabinet, using a tape measure to place the shelves equidistant, then a level to make sure they were straight.

8. She styled the bookshelf with finds from the ReStore, all transformed with a few quick coats of spray paint. She used metallic rose-gold paint to transform a couple of baskets, and used a newer product called seaglass spray paint to upgrade a few glass pieces. “It turns something cheap—this is a 50-cent vase here—into something really cool.”

COMFORT FOOD

Vegetable Chowder

With our freeze-now, serve-later vegetable chowder, you can give your family a comfy meal on even the busiest weeknight. This thyme-scented chowder boasts a creamy finish thanks to a dose of half-and-half (or light cream, for the calorie-watchers).

6 medium leeks
2 tablespoon olive oil
4 medium stalks celery
3 medium parsnips
2 medium red potatoes
1 butternut squash
2 can vegetable broth
4 cups water
1/2 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme leaves, plus thyme sprig for garnish
1 teaspoon salt
3/4 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper
1 cup half-and-half or light cream

1. Cut off roots and trim dark-green tops from leeks. Discard any tough outer leaves. Cut each leek lengthwise in half, then crosswise into 1/2-inch-wide slices. Rinse leeks in large bowl of cold water; swish to remove sand. With hands, transfer leeks to colander, leaving sand in bottom of bowl. Repeat rinsing and draining, several times, until all sand is re-

moved. Drain well.

2. In 6-quart saucepot, heat oil on medium-high until hot. Add leeks, celery and parsnips, and cook 10 to 12 minutes or until all vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally.

3. Add potatoes, squash, broth, water, thyme, salt and pepper; heat to boiling on medium-high. Cover; reduce heat to medium-low and simmer about 10 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Stir in half-and-half and heat through, about 13 minutes. Spoon half of soup into tureen and garnish with thyme sprig; then spoon remaining into freezer-safe containers. Yields 15 cups, or 8 main-dish servings.

To Reheat After Thawing:

Top of range: In covered saucepan, heat to boiling on medium, about 25 minutes, stirring often.

Microwave oven: Heat in microwave-safe bowl, covered, on Low (30 percent) 10 minutes, stirring once or twice, then on High 15 to 20 minutes, stirring once.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/. (Hearst Communications, Inc.)

Life & Style

TOP 10 COOL STAYS FOR 2017:

A bucket-list of lodging

The Bird's Nest Pool Villa at Keemala, a very cool stay in Phuket, Thailand.

KEEMALA/TNS

By JILL SCHENSUL
THE RECORD (HACKENSACK, N.J.)

I love coolstays.com. They're a great resource for, well, cool stays — unusual, or at least not your average hotel accommodations. That would include anything from dude ranches to treehouses.

They've just put together a bucket list Top 10 for 2017. If you decide to book one of these places, consider bringing along a medium-size trunk — I'm a little too big to squeeze into the smallest size.

1 Manshausen Sea Cabins, Nordskot, Norway: Off the coast of Northern Norway is a modern adventure and exploration resort. Cabins sleep four, and prices start at \$245/night, manshausen.no/en/

2 ION Adventure Hotel, Nesjavellir, Iceland: "Where everything meets nothing" is the catchphrase, and this luxury adventure hotel is out there, all right. A half an hour or more outside Reykjavik, heading toward Nesjavellir, you'll see lava flows, and rocks, and then the spewing and billowing of the major geothermal activity on this part of the island. The "nothing" means it's nice and dark when the sun goes down, and just right for catching the Northern Lights. Eco-friendly luxury and ultimate relaxation are worth the trip, but the Northern Lights will be what you remember most. Each room sleeps up to four. From \$106 a night, ioniceland.is.

3 Bay House Studio, Kommetjie (near Cape Town), South Africa: Well, this is quite the beach house. Modern, bright white, and just outside the buzz of Cape Town. You can chill out here and be a world away, gazing from any room out onto the pool and the coastline to Table Mountain. This is the place to suggest when your grandparents offer to take you all on a multigenerational adventure. From \$513/night. This is a privately owned property, and you can book it through Coolstays (coolstays.com/property/bay-house-studio/18199) or Vacation Rentals By Owner, vrbo.com/6889004ha.

4 Encuentro Guadalupe, Valle de Guadalupe, Mexico: The resort is in the middle of an ecological reserve and wine country in central Mexico. Four per room max. From \$265/night, grupoencuentro.com.mx/.

5 Dukley Beach Residence, Budva, Montenegro: Apartments, gorgeous on their own, are better with the gorgeous views of the bay. The place comes with a private beach. Sleeps two to six. From \$230/night. dukley.com/en.

6 Fogo Island Inn, Joe Batt's Arm, Newfoundland: A beautifully designed hotel offering unbeatable views of this amazing island situated in the Labrador Current along "Iceberg Alley." Stay in luxury, while being part of the Fogo Island community—2,300 or so hardy souls. Sleeps two to

four. From \$917/night, fogoislandinn.ca.

7 Lighthouse Grebeni, Dubrovnik, Croatia: The century-old lighthouse not only offers accommodations, but you get your own private island in the deal, too. A speedboat can take you to the mainland — you don't want to miss Dubrovnik and a walk on its wall. Sleeps 10. From \$356/night, and you can book through coolstays, coolstays.com/property/lighthouse-grebeni/18287, or through airbnb, airbnb.com/rooms/16060233.

8 El Caracol, Lledo, Aragon, Spain: This private family home offers views of the treetops and landscape beyond. The house itself is an architectural treat: a spacious, glass-fronted dome decorated with contemporary furniture, full of light, to bring the outdoors in. But located in the middle of eight acres of Mediterranean pine forest, and the confluence of two rivers, it offers plenty of opportunity for recreation alfresco, such as a swim at the Balneario de Fontcalda — a limestone gorge with deep natural pools. And nearby is the "Cathedral of Wine" — no, really, it's a brick temple dedicated to the drink. Sleeps eight. From \$190/night. Go to coolstays to get the scoop on booking, coolstays.com/property/el-caracol/17778.

9 Villa Maggona, Maggona, Sri Lanka: A tranquil haven in Sri Lanka's Golden Triangle. Spend the day on the beach

or relaxing by the pool in the tropical green garden. Sleeps 10. From \$207/night, villamaggona.com.

10 Keemala, Phuket, Thailand: A wonderland of uniquely designed villas, each

with a private pool, set in the rainforest of Kamala on Phuket Island. Sleeps two. From \$440/night, keemala.com.

In Celebration of His New Life

RODNEY STEVEN TAKAI CAMACHO

Born to life on December 01, 1968
Called to Eternal life on January 11, 2017

In his new life he now joins his:

Parents: †Leonardo Deleon Guerrero Camacho
†Rita Takai Camacho

Father In-Law: †Jose Acosta Camacho

Siblings: †Lawrence Takai Camacho
†Elena Irene Takai Camacho
†Joseph Takai Camacho

In Laws: †Julian M & +Maria R. Camacho

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Carmen C. Camacho

Mother In-Law: Juana Muna Camacho

Daughter: Ronnie Cherise C. Camacho

Brothers/Sisters and In-Law:

Maria C. Arizala
Joanne T. Camacho
John T. Camacho
William T. & Valerie S. Camacho
Rose G. Camacho

Brothers In-Law/Sisters In-Law:

Jose M. & Anna T. Camacho
Jesus M. & Grace Camacho
Antonio M. & Trini Camacho
Mariano M. & Rosa A. Camacho
Francisco M. & Marsha B. Camacho
Sebastian M. & Theresita S. Camacho
Fernando M. & Rowena R. Camacho
Augustin M. & Janel A. Camacho
Vincent M. Camacho & Danielle June Koch
Remedios M. Camacho & Family
Consolacion C. & Rainaldo Aguon
Maria Elizabeth & Cerbert Eamilao
Ana M. Camacho & Raymond Guzman
Magdalena C. & Ricardo Babauta

He is additionally survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.



Daily Mass of Intention is being offered at 6:00pm at Santa Soledad Church from Monday to Saturday and 6:00am and 8:30am on Sunday.

On Thursday, January 19, 2017 his remains will be escorted at 7:30am from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Santa Soledad Church. Responso service and Holy Rosary will take place upon arrival of remains.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am. Interment Service will follow at Santuario Pax Memorial Gardens where he will be at a peaceful rest.

*Un Dangkulo na Si Yu'us Maase. Thank you for your prayers
Ginen I Familia*

DuVernay talks with Winfrey about Trump, race, her new film

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ava DuVernay doesn't want to talk about Donald Trump's election. Her feelings are still too raw.

But because Oprah Winfrey asked about it, the filmmaker opened up: Trump "represents violence," DuVernay said, and she doesn't have much empathy for those who supported him.

She made the remarks Sunday during a discussion about "13th," her documentary about the prison industrial complex and the disproportionately high number of black men behind bars.

Winfrey moderated an

hourlong conversation between DuVernay and political commentator Van Jones at the home of Netflix chief Ted Sarandos, who hosted the event with wife Nicole Avant under two tennis-court-sized tents in their backyard.

Guests at the invitation-only affair were mostly industry insiders, including Quincy Jones, Rob Reiner, Laura Dern, Mira Sorvino, Courtney B. Vance and Chelsea Handler. Winfrey was a winning moderator, quipping to the crowd but mostly quiet, keeping the spotlight on her subjects.

A few moments recalled her

old talk show.

The first thing she did was move her chair closer to DuVernay and Jones. In a long slate dress and black stilettos, Winfrey scooted the rattan seat over herself. Sarandos quietly hustled onto the stage to move a small coffee table that was in her way. Later, when the conversation about Trump got particularly animated, Winfrey deadpanned to the audience: "We should be televising this."

Footage from Trump's



DuVernay

campaign rallies appears in "13th," which connects the criminalization and jailing of black men in jail to a provision of the 13th Amendment that prohibits slavery except as a punishment for crime. Available now on Netflix, the film is among 15 documentaries shortlisted for Oscar nominations, which will be announced Jan. 24.

DuVernay said she feared the police as a child growing up in Compton, California. As a student at UCLA, she stud-

ied American history, justice and institutionalized racism.

In researching the documentary, DuVernay said she was most surprised to learn about

the American Legislative Exchange Council, a conservative group that proposes policies and legislation based on the corporate interests it represents.

Woody Harrelson goes live from London, talks 'Star Wars'

LONDON (AP)—Woody Harrelson is trying to do something that's never been done before, although he's starting to realize why his feat would be a first.



The American actor plans to spend the

early hours of Friday shooting a full-length film, called "Lost In London LIVE," which will be broadcast as it happens in over 550 U.S. theaters.

"Someone was asking me earlier, 'Do you think that people will start doing this now? Filming a movie and live-streaming it at the same time?' And I said, 'Well, not if they speak to me first.' This is some harrowing stuff," he laughs.

Based on a relentlessly awful night out he really had in the British capital, Harrelson wrote and is directing the film that combines comedy and drama.

Talking on the movie's set in the streets of London's theatre district, where rehears-

als are happening during the day and at night, Harrelson says he could do with three more weeks of preparation before the action unfolds in real time.

Harrelson, 55, was arrested in London after a night out in 2002. He declined to say whether "Lost in London" is based on events from that night, but the set includes a recreation of the club he visited before his arrest.

"Lost In London LIVE" is an attempt to merge his two loves, film and theater. And even though audiences will be watching on the other side of the pond when it's Thursday evening, Harrelson is convinced the event's live-streamed nature will add an electrifying element.

"Will it mess up the performance? That's the question. Will the fear be too high to eke out a performance? I don't know," he said.

Springsteen cover band changes tune, won't play at gala

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—A Bruce Springsteen cover band has changed its tune about performing at a Washington gala the day before Republican Donald Trump's inauguration.

The B Street Band decided to pull out of the Thursday night performance at the New Jersey State Society's gala.

Band leader Willie Forte said Monday the decision was based "solely on the respect and gratitude we have for Bruce and the E Street Band. That conquers everything else."

Trump's inauguration is Friday, followed that evening by inaugural balls.

Springsteen has called the Republican president-elect a "flagrant, toxic narcissist" and has questioned whether he's competent for the job. Springsteen performed during Democratic President Barack Obama's 2009 inaugural, and Obama presented him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2016.

The B Street Band had drawn jeers on social media from Springsteen fans, accusing the band of abandoning the soul of the musician its made a career of following. As the attention reached national proportions, the band decided

it was best to cancel the show.

"This whole thing just got blown out of proportion, which is a shame because (the NJSS) are good, nice people," Forte said.

Forte said the show had been planned since 2013, noting that the band twice performed for the nonprofit, nonpartisan society at galas to mark Obama's inaugurals.

The society's executive director, Nancy Fatemi, said in a statement that the group was disappointed to learn of the cancellation, but "we understand the decision based on all the questions and attention this has

brought to the B Street Band."

Forte said he believes much of the criticism arose because people mistakenly thought the group was going to perform at Trump's inaugural ball.

The New Jersey State Society brings together those with ties to New Jersey in the Washington area and sponsors networking events. Springsteen is from New Jersey.

Springsteen superfan Gov. Chris Christie and his wife, Mary Pat, are honorary co-chairs of the \$225-per-person event. The Republican governor's office did not respond to a question about whether they would attend.

PLAYA DEL CARMEN, Mexico (AP)—Gunfire broke out in a crowded beachfront nightclub throbbing with electronic music before dawn Monday, causing five deaths and setting off a bloody stampede by screaming concertgoers at an international festival in this Caribbean resort.

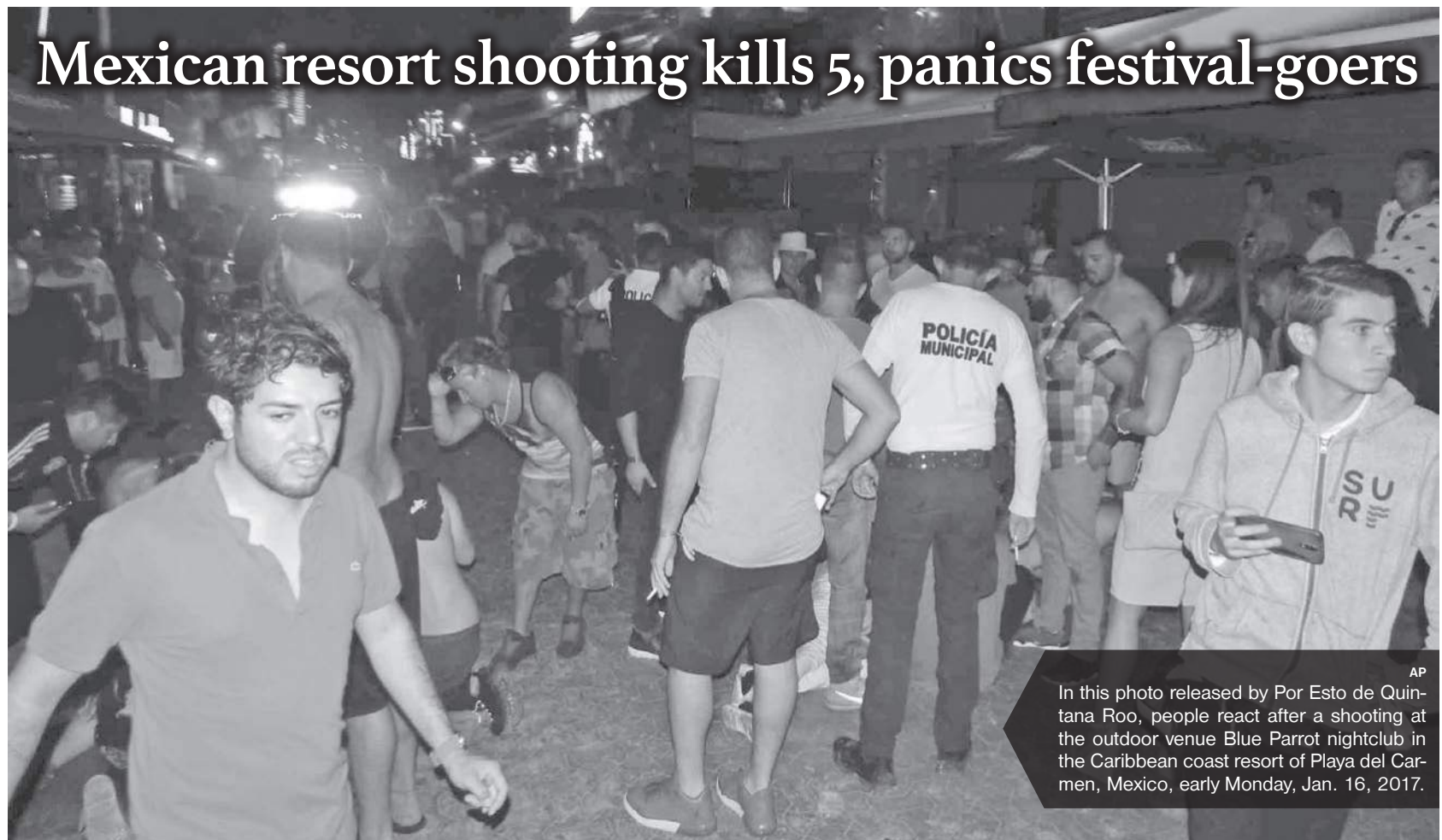
At least one person died in the crush to escape and some of the 15 people wounded or injured were hurt in the rush out, authorities said.

Quintana Roo state Attorney General Miguel Angel Pech ruled out any terror attack, and the state's governor said it involved a personal dispute. Pech said the shooting erupted when security personnel tried to stop a man from entering the Blue Parrot club with a gun.

Three of those killed were part of the security detail at the 10-day BPM electronic music festival, Pech said. The gunman apparently fled.

"I was thinking it was the same thing that happened in Paris, some guy just walking in and shooting people at a restaurant, bang bang bang, a terrorist attack," said New Zealand tourist Tyler Klee, who was outside the club when shots rang out.

"Everyone ran, everyone was terrified, looking for their friends ... We were running



Mexican resort shooting kills 5, panics festival-goers

away and then you hear more shots fired, like you don't know if you're going to be shot in the back or not."

His friend Ben Forbes, from Australia, said: "It happened pretty quickly as well ... You still didn't know where they

were, how many there were."

Officials released a list of the dead, who included one Canadian, one American, two Mexicans and one Italian.

Canada's Global Affairs Department identified its dead citizen as Kirk J. Wilson

of Toronto.

Neil Forester, a friend, said Wilson was a longtime bouncer and was working security at the festival to lend a hand to its Canadian organizers. "He was just a genuine, one-of-a-kind guy," Forester said. He said

Wilson was 49 and was married with two children.

The U.S. Embassy confirmed that one of those killed was a U.S. citizen, and the Quintana Roo state prosecutor's office identified her as Alejandra Villanueva Ibarra.

The office said she died in the crush to escape the shooting.

Italy's Foreign Ministry confirmed one of its citizens died, and the prosecutor's office identified him as Daniel Pessina and said he was part of the BPM staff.

AP
In this photo released by Por Esto de Quintana Roo, people react after a shooting at the outdoor venue Blue Parrot nightclub in the Caribbean coast resort of Playa del Carmen, Mexico, early Monday, Jan. 16, 2017.

Ivanka Trump lays groundwork for policy role in Washington

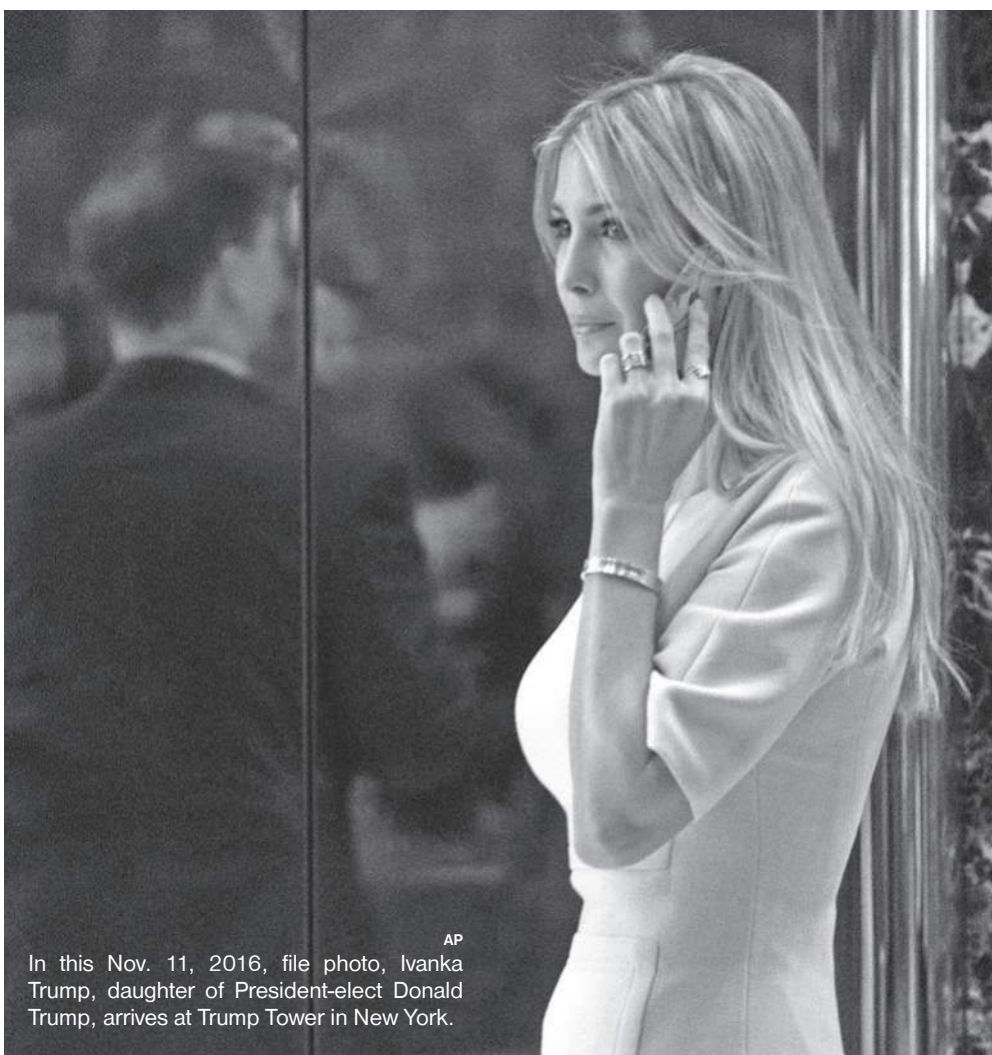
DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—She may not be working in the White House, but that doesn't mean Ivanka Trump is staying out of politics.

Although she has said she will have no official role in her father's administration, Ivanka Trump has been quietly laying the groundwork for an effort that could make her perhaps the best-connected policy advocate in Washington. Trump, who has made clear she wants to push for policies benefiting women and girls, last week sought the advice of a group of female executives and media stars in New York City. And transition aides have reached

out to congressional staff on child care policies, an area she has urged President-elect Donald Trump to prioritize.

In a Facebook post detailing her next moves, Ivanka Trump thanked people who had reached out on such issues and added that she is determining the "most impactful and appropriate ways for me to serve our country."

It is not clear if Trump will establish herself independently or if she will eventually enter the White House. But operating from the outside may take her into uncharted territory, as there are few recent examples of a first fam-



AP
In this Nov. 11, 2016, file photo, Ivanka Trump, daughter of President-elect Donald Trump, arrives at Trump Tower in New York.

to the House of Representatives' Ways and Means Committee staff about Trump's child care proposals. Asked about news reports about the outreach, Ivanka Trump noted that these were priorities for the president-elect, the attendee said.

A Trump Transition spokesperson declined to comment on the event.

Ivanka Trump's interest and influence on these issues was clear during the campaign. Encouraged by his daughter, Donald Trump offered a child care plan in September, which includes guaranteeing six weeks of paid maternity leave for new mothers, as well as some incentives to encourage employers to provide child care to workers.

The policy would require congressional approval—a considerable hurdle. Such proposals are not a high priority for Republican leadership and it's not clear how well they'll be received by conservatives in the GOP-controlled Congress.

Ivanka Trump has already made some outreach to lawmakers, including meeting with Republican women back in September. But it is not clear if, moving forward, she will lobby Congress directly.

There is little precedent for a president's adult child seeking to have that sort of influence, said University of Minnesota law professor Richard Painter, who served as ethics counsel for President George W. Bush.

The closest comparison would be the policy work by first ladies, like Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign. Painter said that first ladies are generally not subject to conflict of interest laws, though in the past they complied voluntarily like past presidents.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

NYPD arrests 2nd man in connection to fatal concert shooting

NEW YORK (AP)—Police have arrested a second man in connection with a fatal shooting at a popular Manhattan concert venue. Authorities say 31-year-old Daryl Campbell, of Brooklyn, was arrested Monday on a charge of criminal possession of a weapon. The May 25 shooting at Irving Plaza occurred just before the rapper T.I. was to perform. A bodyguard of rapper Roland Collins, who performs as Troy Ave, was fatally wounded. Three other people, including Collins, were wounded. Collins also was charged in the case, and was freed on \$500,000 bail after pleading not guilty to an attempted murder charge. Collins' attorney says Collins didn't shoot his bodyguard, Ronald McPhatter. Then, while sitting in his car Dec. 25 at a Brooklyn intersection, Collins was shot in the arm and a bullet grazed his head.

Piano Guys say inaugural performance isn't Trump endorsement

NEW YORK (AP)—The Piano Guys are saying their decision to perform at an event marking the presidential inauguration of Donald Trump is not a political endorsement. The Utah-based group, which first found fame on YouTube, is among the few acts to agree to play for the Republican's inaugural celebration. Numerous musicians have said they turned down offers or changed their minds after initially accepting. Jennifer Holliday was among those who backed away, citing intense criticism from the LGBT community. Others expected to play include the country stars Lee Greenwood and Toby Keith. Trump will be sworn in Friday. In a statement issued Monday, the Piano Guys said they weren't honoring an individual politician but hoping to spread "love, joy and hope." They added that they hoped "understanding" and "goodwill" would prevail.

ily member without a White House office advocating for policies. The closest model is the first lady, who has an office in the East Wing.

For now, the businesswoman has said only that she is stepping away from executive roles at the Trump Organization and her lifestyle brand and is moving her family to Washington so that her husband, Jared Kushner, can take a job as a senior adviser. She has also stressed that she wants to focus on settling her three young children in a new home.

But Ivanka Trump is also thinking beyond that.

On Thursday, she attended a dinner with female executives at the home of her friend Wen-

di Deng, ex-wife of media executive Rupert Murdoch. The dinner was put together by Dina Powell, a Goldman Sachs partner who is joining the Trump administration as an assistant to the president and senior counselor for economic initiatives. Powell has been advising Ivanka Trump and is expected to continue working closely with her.

Other guests included MSNBC "Morning Joe" co-host Mika Brzezinski, model Christy Turlington Burns, former White House press secretary Dana Perino, Xerox Chairperson Ursula Burns, Deloitte CEO Cathy Engelbert, Glamour Editor-in-Chief Cynthia Leive and Time Man-

aging Editor Nancy Gibbs. Another attendee, Pattie Sellers, executive director of Fortune's Most Powerful Women Summits, wrote on Fortune.com that Ivanka Trump "explained that she wanted to learn from the efforts of leaders in their fields."

Also there was Sheila Marcello, founder of www.care.com, a website that connects families with caregivers, said an attendee who spoke on condition of anonymity because it was a private dinner. Marcelo spoke about the high cost of caregiving, both for children and adult family members.

The attendee said the group also discussed the Trump transition team's recent outreach

Learn to manage anger before exploding at kids

DEAR ABBY: I am a 23-year-old woman, and I know I should have a lot more patience than I do right now. I'm happily married with two beautiful children. After work when I return home, I'm fine for the first hour or so. But if my children start to get loud or keep asking me to do something, I get extremely aggravated.

My children are young and I love them, but I should be in more control of my temper toward them. I feel so bad when I lose it and shout at them. What can I do to improve this?

SHORT FUSE IN GEORGIA

DEAR SHORT FUSE: I'm glad you asked, because it is important that you learn to relieve your frustration without taking it out on your children. There are healthy ways of managing frustration without exploding.

The first is to recognize that you are becoming upset. Leave the room and, if your husband is home, go for a walk or a short run to help you to regain your perspective. Another technique is to "stall" before reacting. Pause for a moment and say a prayer, "Please Lord, don't let me lose my temper!" before opening your mouth. My booklet, "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With it," contains

a number of healthy ways of dealing with frustration and other negative emotions. It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for \$7 in U.S. funds, to Dear Abby — Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. I hope it will be helpful to you. It's important that you get a handle on your temper so your children won't grow up thinking that verbal abuse is a normal way to handle their own emotions.

DEAR ABBY: My 25-year-old daughter suffers from Peter Pan Syndrome. Three years out of college, she wants to live an "extended dorm" lifestyle with other young men/women (and their girlfriends/boyfriends), instead of settling down and moving out with her boyfriend of two years.

She says she has "a high need for affiliation" (she needs a lot of people around 24/7). But she also has a high need for change/variety and rotates roommates every two to three years. Looking for a "mini commune" in a crowded city like San Francisco is very difficult. What makes matters worse is that she also has hobbies like sewing that require a lot of space.

Is there something wrong with this lifestyle preference? And

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



if so, how do I help her break out of it?

WORRIED DAD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DAD: At 25, your daughter is an adult. Many people her age live communally because it's less costly than living independently, and San Francisco has become so expensive that it's often their only option.

If she's already living in an "extended dorm" situation, it's her life to live and she'll learn lessons. If you feel compelled to offer her advice, suggest they relocate to a less expensive and crowded area, which may entail a longer commute, but with fewer roommates she will have more room for her hobbies.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 39 Wildebeest 41 Actor LaBeouf 43 Potassium 46 Pinch, as in pie crust 50 Eventful periods 51 Postal nuisance 54 Director Kazan 55 "— was saying ..." 56 Waffle brand 57 Survey 58 Knock out 59 Optimistic

DOWN 1 Easy targets 2 Ship's front 3 Aachen article 4 Ambush 5 Carte lead-in 6 Muumuu accessory 7 Buddies 8 Van Gogh venue 9 Square-rigger need 10 "Hey!" 11 Hot tubs 16 Pampering, for short 20 Abound god 22 Thunder varieties 23 Sit-up targets 26 Dove's call 27 Finger woe 29 Shove 31 Ms. Farrow 32 Half a dozen 34 Satyr's cousin 38 Crop grower 40 Twangy 42 "Nasty!" 43 Gridlock sound 44 Woody's son 45 Slightly open 47 "Othello" villain 48 Russian jets 49 Tactic 52 Mex. neighbor 53 Chill in the air

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 1-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Segel, 37; Jesse L. Martin, 48; Mark Messier, 56; Kevin Costner, 62.

Happy Birthday: Silence is golden. Listen and choose your path carefully. Don't let temptation draw you into something questionable. Rely on your own resources to reach your destination using discipline and hard work to get there. This is a year of putting everything in its place in preparation for what's to come. Stability and security should be your priorities. Your numbers are 4, 12, 22, 32, 35, 42, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Temptation will consume you. Don't get emotional about how you deal with situations concerning your peers or employer. It is best to bide your time while you gather facts. Education and gaining experience are favored. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Not everyone will be happy with your accomplishments. Don't let a jealous individual rain on your parade. Be proud of what you have to offer and indulge in giving what you can to those who do appreciate your time and effort. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Change is welcome and can be good if you keep it simple and within your means. Don't let confusion or uncertainty take over. Network, ask questions and make decisions. A partnership will be in your best interest. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Avoid joint ventures. You will do your best by working alone on a goal or activity that brings you pleasure. Incorporate your skills

and knowledge into the things you enjoy doing most, and you will find your niche. Stick to a set budget. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Paying for someone to do a job that you can take care of yourself will be a waste of money. Explore other ways to cut corners as well and you will have more money to spend on things that matter to you. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep money matters to yourself. Joint ventures will lead to a loss. Concentrate on emotional rather than financial partnerships. A day trip will result in more options as well as information that will help you reach your goal. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be confused by what someone does or says. Don't overreact or take offense when the best way to bring about positive changes will be to offer incentives and ask for advice or contributions. Keep life simple. Avoid indulgence. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An emotional plea will be the result of someone trying to take advantage of your kindness. Keep in mind that charity begins at home. Do your best to put your time and effort into home and personal improvements, not helping outsiders. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What you do for others or a cause you believe in will encourage greater respect from others. Refuse to let an emotional incident cost you at work. Being productive will be the way to gain acceptance and advance. ****

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Emotions will come between you and making the right choice when dealing with educational pursuits, dealing with peers or taking impulsive actions. Think before you make an unrealistic promise. Slow down—time is on your side. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep an open mind, but don't feel you have to share personal information with anyone who doesn't wield proper authority. Protecting your interests and doing so secretly will help you avoid loss. Invest in yourself, not someone else. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Bring about change without overspending. Realistic plans will be supported by the people you need in your corner. Don't let anyone pressure you into doing something you cannot afford. Be progressive, not excessive. ***

Birthday Baby: You are emotional, outspoken and impulsive. You are caring and persistent. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/18

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

COOKING COMPETITIONS Solution: 9 letters

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Yesterday's Answer: Curves

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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- Meets with existing building maintenance staff to ensure building codes are met, to perform a detailed inspection of property and to secure building historical plans.
- Evaluates specifications for plan procedures, start and completion dates, and staffing requirements for each phase of the construction project. Estimates the scope of work and obtains a minimum of three bids for comparison and completion of each job.
- Directs subcontractors and staff engaged in planning and executing work procedures.
- Inspects property and units under construction on a regular basis to ensure the work conforms to specifications, schedule and initiates any repair or replacement needs and/or adjustment of working procedures. Regularly communicates with the project team regarding unit and property status.
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- Provides simple estimates for the costs of materials and staffing for various construction and/or renovation projects.
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Warriors rout defending champion Cavaliers 126-91 in rematch



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Now, everybody can sit back for a few months and envision the possibility of another scintillating NBA Finals between Cleveland and Golden State.

LeBron James vs. Stephen Curry for the third straight time, complete with the hard-nosed play of Draymond Green, dazzling dunks from Kevin Durant and sharp shooting from Kyrie Irving.

This regular-season round went to the Warriors, who dominated from the start on Monday—and it wasn't even close. The defending champs were dismantled on the very floor where they captured the franchise's first title last June.

Curry and his superstar supporting cast certainly looked ready to trade more postseason blows with Cleveland. The two-time reigning MVP hit five 3-pointers on the way to 20 points while matching his season best with 11 assists in Golden State's 126-91 rout of the Cavaliers.

"This is high-quality basketball, at its highest level," Curry said. "These are the kinds of atmospheres that you live for. Whether you win or lose, regular season, playoffs, whatever, that you can play in that kind of environment that's always fun."

Klay Thompson scored 26 points with five 3s, and Green produced his third triple-double of the season with 11 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists. He also equaled his career best with five blocks—and had another confrontation with King James in the process.

James had 20 points on 6-of-18 shooting and eight rebounds. But he and Green became the talk once more as their relationship again turned testy.

"I don't think it's a rivalry," James reiterated. "It's two great teams that have aspirations. I don't believe I've ever had a rivalry in the NBA."

Durant added 21 points, six rebounds, five assists and three blocks for the Warriors in a much-hyped matchup merely weeks after Golden State lost 109-108 in Cleveland on Christmas.

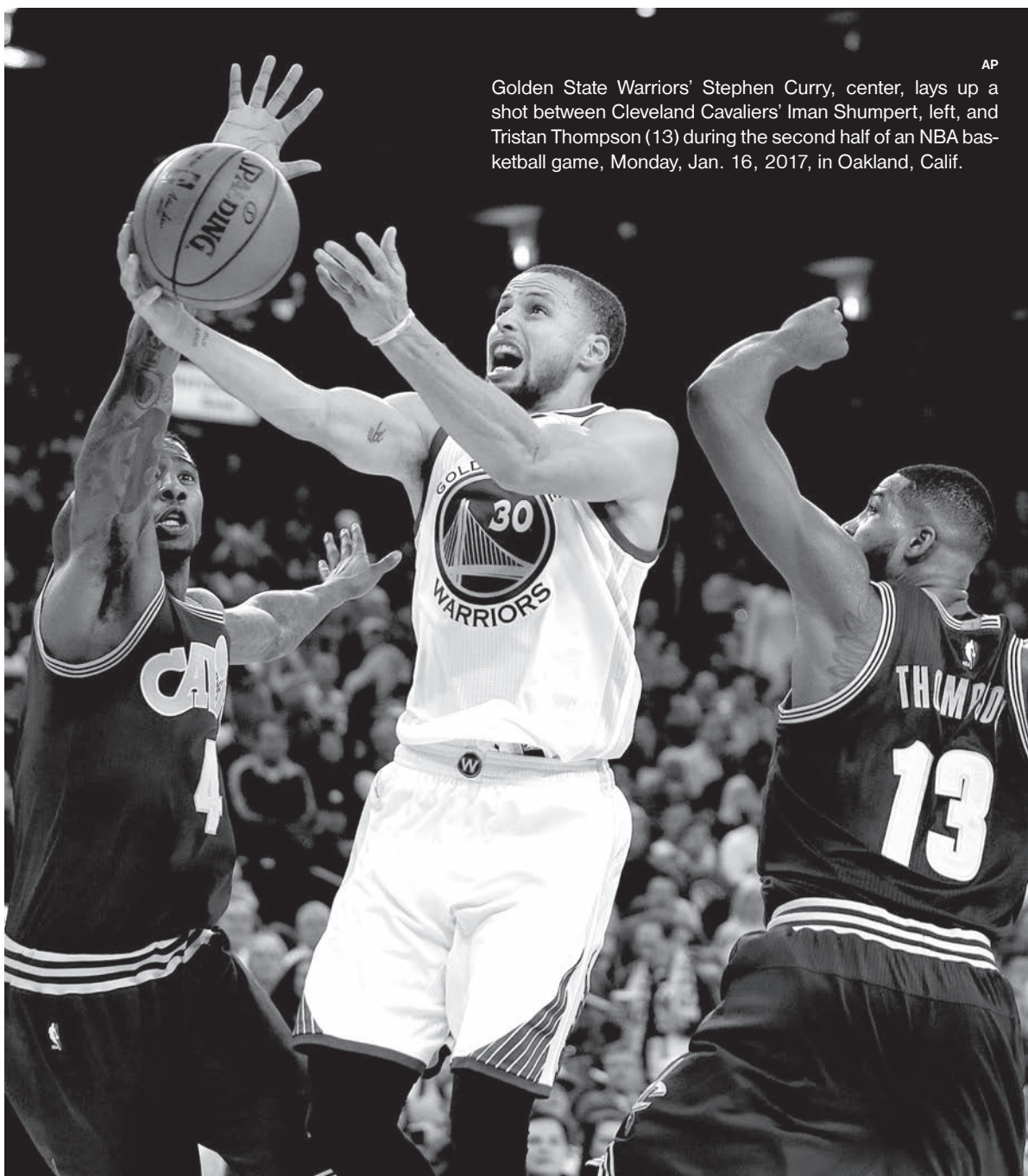
The Warriors squandered a 14-point lead that day in a loss that fueled them going into Monday. They relinquished a 3-1 advantage in the Finals last year, a failure that motivates them to return to the big stage. And the teams' latest holiday game marked the Cavs' first trip back to Oracle Arena since capturing the title here seven months ago.

Irving—who hit game-winners against Golden State in the past two matchups, including the championship clincher—scored 17 points on an uncharacteristic day for the Cavs when they committed 15 turnovers to 11 assists.

"They did what they were supposed to do," Irving said. "Right from the start they jumped on us and never looked back."

Cleveland shot just 35.2 percent (31 for 88) overall. Beyond embarrassed, Cavs players headed for the tunnel before the final buzzer even sounded.

The latest altercation between Green and James came with 6:55 left in the first half. Golden State led 52-35 when James collided with Green



AP
Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, center, lays up a shot between Cleveland Cavaliers' Iman Shumpert, left, and Tristan Thompson (13) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Jan. 16, 2017, in Oakland, Calif.

near midcourt, resulting in a flagrant 1 foul on Golden State's emotional All-Star. Green's arm extended across the upper body of James, who went down hard and lay on the court. Green reacted by appearing to mock James for flopping.

After a long replay review, a double technical was called on Green and Richard Jefferson.

After Curry's pull-up 3 moments before halftime sent his team into the break with a 78-49 lead, the star guard did what looked like a little celebratory breakdancing move on his behind at the sideline.

You bet this one felt like more than just any game to the Warriors, looking to regain some swagger in this rivalry after Cleveland had won the past four meetings, including last year's NBA Finals.

"To me it was because they beat us four straight times and that's never fun when a team has your number for four games, so it felt good to redeem ourselves," Thompson said.

Durant, new to the rivalry this season, appeared downright possessed. KD's driving, emphatic tomahawk jam 1:43 before halftime sent Oracle Arena's sellout crowd into a frenzy.

Zaza Pachulia pulled down 13 rebounds as Golden State had a 58-35 edge on the boards. Andre Iguodala came off the bench to make all five of his field goal attempts for a season-high 14 points, and Shaun Livingston added 13.

With this one in the books, these teams are done with each other - for

the time being.

"It's intense enough for two matchups," Green said. "If you want to play each other again, try to get to the NBA Finals. The fact you only play twice a year makes it even more exciting because you only have two cracks at it."

Clippers 120, Thunder 98

In Los Angeles, J.J. Redick scored 20 points while DeAndre Jordan had 19 points and 15 rebounds as the Los Angeles Clippers overcame Chris Paul's injury to defeat Oklahoma City.

The banged-up Clippers tied a franchise record for their best start to a calendar year at 7-0. The team began 1974 with the same mark when the club was located in Buffalo.

Los Angeles owns the NBA's longest active winning streak despite being without injured star Blake Griffin. Paul sprained his left thumb in the second quarter of this one and didn't return.

Russell Westbrook scored 24 points on 7-of-19 shooting in three quarters for the Thunder, the last team to beat the Clippers — on New Year's Eve — before the calendar turned and their winning streak began. He was the only starter in double figures for Oklahoma City.

Marreese Speights had a season-high 23 points for the Clippers.

Celtics 108, Hornets 98

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 17 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter as the surging Boston Celtics beat

Charlotte for their ninth victory in 11 games.

It was Thomas' 25th straight game with 20 or more points. He's been putting up big final quarters of late — scoring 20 or more an NBA-best three times this season.

Al Horford had 22 points for Boston, which has won all three meetings with Charlotte this season.

Kemba Walker scored 24 for the Hornets, who lost their fifth straight — all on the road.

Hawks 108, Knicks 107

In New York, Dennis Schroder scored 28 points, including a go-ahead 3-pointer with 22 seconds left as Atlanta beat New York.

Tim Hardaway Jr. added 20 points and Paul Millsap had 17 for the Hawks, who won for the ninth time in 10 games to reach the midpoint of their schedule at 24-17.

Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points for the Knicks, who changed their lineup but it wasn't quite good enough. They lost for the 11th time in 13 games.

Neither team led by more than eight in the game that was close all the way. The Hawks rested Dwight Howard, while the Knicks were without Kristaps Porzingis again because of a sore left Achilles tendon.

Wizards 120, Trail Blazers 101

In Washington, Bradley Beal scored 25 points, John Wall had 24 and Washington rolled to its 12th consecutive home victory.

The Wizards, who rely less on the

3-pointer than almost any NBA team, were 13 of 23 from beyond the arc. The 3-pointer-heavy Trail Blazers shot 8 of 26 on 3-point attempts.

Damian Lillard led Portland with 22 points and C.J. McCollum had 12, but they combined to shoot 11 of 29 from the floor.

The Wizards have won four of their last five games.

76ers 113, Bucks 104

In Milwaukee, Joel Embiid scored 12 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter, and Philadelphia won for the fourth time in five games.

The Sixers improved to 13-26. Their only recent loss was Saturday at Washington, when Embiid didn't play. Embiid is limited to 28 minutes per game while trying to overcome injuries that have slowed his career.

Embiid also had 12 rebounds. Dario Saric scored 17 points for Philadelphia, and Ersan Ilyasova had 12 on 4-for-14 shooting.

Jabari Parker and Giannis Antetokounmpo each scored 23 points for Milwaukee, which led 54-46 at halftime.

Pacers 98, Pelicans 95

In Indianapolis, Jeff Teague had 16 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds, helping Indiana win for the fifth time in six games.

The Pacers shot 50.6 percent from the floor and had five players score in double figures. Paul George had 19 points, and Myles Turner added 18 points and 12 boards.

All-Star center Anthony Davis led the Pelicans with 16 points despite missing the final 19 minutes after hurting his right hip and left thumb. Team officials said X-rays were negative.

Nuggets 125, Magic 112

In Denver, Nikola Jokic scored a career-high 30 points, Emmanuel Mudiay dished out a career-best 13 assists and Denver followed its "home" win in London with another victory at the Pepsi Center.

Jokic also grabbed 11 rebounds and Kenneth Faried scored 20 points for the Nuggets, who certainly packed their surging offense with them when they returned home from London. They routed Indiana 140-112 last Thursday in England and remained on that sort of shooting streak, hitting a season-high 58.4 percent from the floor. They also had 33 assists.

Elfrid Payton had 20 points and 12 assists as the Magic fell to 1-4 on their current six-game trip.

Jazz 106, Suns 101

In Phoenix, Joe Johnson scored 10 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter, including the go-ahead 3-pointer with 49.8 seconds to play, as Utah made it seven in a row over Phoenix.

The Jazz scored the final seven points after T.J. Warren's steal and breakaway dunk put the Suns ahead 101-99 with 1:13 left.

Rudy Gobert had 18 points and 17 rebounds for Utah. Gordon Hayward and George Hill scored 17 apiece.

Suns guard Eric Bledsoe had 31 points, nine rebounds and nine assists, falling just short of his third career triple-double. Devin Booker, coming off consecutive 39-point games in Mexico City, added 25 for Phoenix.

Steelers downplay Tomlin's vulgar description of Patriots



PITTSBURGH (AP)—Antonio Brown wanted to let the world in on the party when he live-streamed the giddy celebration in Pittsburgh's locker room after an 18-16 playoff win over Kansas City.

The All-Pro wide receiver also happened to catch coach Mike Tomlin indelicately describing the New England Patriots, the Steelers' opponent in the AFC Championship game. Tomlin's word choice—an expletive—didn't bother his players as much as Brown's decision to throw back the curtain on what is usually a private moment.

"Personally I'd like some of that stuff sacred," long snapper Greg Warren said Monday. "But this is a changing world, a changing environment. I can't be some old guy stuck under a rock, that's for sure."

Brown's 17-minute video collected more than 900,000 views in a few hours before being removed (though it lives on through YouTube). It included players dancing and Tomlin—who was out of the shot and unaware it was being filmed but who could be heard clearly in the packed locker room—beginning his postgame speech by telling the Steelers to "say very little moving forward," and then adding "we spotted those (expletive) a day and a half." New England advanced to the title game by beating Houston on Saturday night, 24 hours before the Steelers held off the Chiefs.

Guard Ramon Foster "would love to hear AB's explanation," but downplayed any concerns about the video becoming a distraction or take away from Pittsburgh's ninth straight victory.

"I don't think that overshadowed it," Foster said. "You guys know what that was. It's a bunch of guys having fun, talking, enjoying themselves. That's simply what that was. It wasn't anything malicious. It just happens that (Brown's) iPhone is really good."



AP
Pittsburgh Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell, right, runs from Kansas City Chiefs free safety Ron Parker (38) during the second half of an NFL divisional playoff football game Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017, in Kansas City, Mo.

Foster added Tomlin's description of New England hardly applies just to the Patriots.

"Everybody in this league is an (expletive)," Foster said. "You have to be to play this sport. The coaches didn't become coaches by being nice guys."

Besides, Foster hardly thinks the Patriots (15-2) will

use Tomlin mildly dissing them as an incentive, not with a chance to reach a seventh Super Bowl under Bill Belichick at stake.

"The Patriots watched our game, they know everything about us," Foster said. "They know for us to be in this game is not a secret. They're going to study everything we do, so it's not like we're going to sneak up on them. It just so happened they heard what the coach was going to say. That's it."

The 64-year-old Belichick hardly seemed bothered by Tomlin's comments during a radio interview with WEEI in

Boston on Monday.

"I'm not on SnapFace and all that so I don't really get those," Belichick said. "I'm really just worried about getting our team ready to go. I'm not really too worried about what they put on InstantChat or whatever it is."

New England beat Pittsburgh 27-16 on Oct. 23 behind two touchdowns from Tom Brady and 127 yards rushing from LeGarrette Blount. Pittsburgh (13-5) played without quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who sat out while recovering from surgery on his left knee. Backup Landry Jones threw for 281

yards with a touchdown and an interception.

The Steelers actually out-gained the Patriots by 13 yards (375-362) but settled for three Chris Boswell field goals when they needed touchdowns in hopes of pulling off an upset. It's an issue that popped up again Sunday night, when Boswell drilled a postseason-record six field goals to provide all of Pittsburgh's 18 points.

More almost certainly will be required against New England, which is averaging 31.6 points at home when Brady plays this season. That will be challenging enough, not wor-

rying about getting worked up over something Tomlin thought he was saying in the intimacy of the locker room or even the slight head start the Patriots will have in preparations.

"If we were the No. 1 seed, that would have been us, we'd have been those (expletive)," Foster said with a laugh. "They were the No. 1 seed, they get to rest more. I just like to keep rolling. That's how we're going to be this entire week is to keep rolling, keep doing our job because at the end of the day it's who's the best team that day. The rest don't matter."

FRISCO, Texas (AP)—Dak Prescott playfully tried to negotiate the length of his second meeting with reporters in less than 24 hours after experiencing the pain of a last-play loss in the NFL playoffs for the first time.

The Dallas rookie quarterback told someone to pick the maximum number of questions, and when he thought it was too high, Prescott suggested his uniform number—four—and broke into a faint smile while everyone laughed Monday.

Prescott and fellow rookie Ezekiel Elliott, the NFL rushing champion, can understand what Tony Romo and Jason Witten have been feeling for years trying to end what is now a 21-year Super Bowl drought for a franchise with five titles.

It will be up to the young stars to make it happen after the promise they showed in a gut-wrenching 34-31 divi-

Prescott feels pain, but is part of promise for Cowboys

sional playoff loss at home to Green Bay.

"It was a missed opportunity ... because this team won't be back together, not the same team, not the same exact men and players won't be back together," said Prescott, whose 11-game winning streak kept Romo on the bench after the 10-year starter returned from a preseason back injury.

"But for the people that will for this organization, the youth in this team, it's a building block. We're going to get better from it. We'll make plenty more runs."

The Cowboys had a replay of 2007, when they were the top seed in the NFC at 13-3 with a bye and home-field advantage before losing to the New York Giants.

The loss to the Packers was

Dallas' fifth straight in the divisional round, going back to 1996, the season after their most recent Super Bowl win.

The feeling, though, might be a little more like 1991, when the Cowboys lost to Detroit in the same round and went into the offseason feeling the need to add an elite pass-rushing end. Charles Haley was a key part of three Super Bowl wins in four years.

The Dallas defense was mostly adequate this season working alongside a first-rate offense with one of the NFL's best offensive lines.

But the Cowboys couldn't stop Aaron Rodgers, just like two years ago when they were built similarly and lost a divisional game in a visit to Green Bay.

"I'm buoyed in the short term more so than what hap-

pened to us in the ensuing years after '07," said owner and general manager Jerry Jones, whose Cowboys went to the playoffs once in six years after that season. "I don't think I'm being an optimist."

Things to consider as the Cowboys head into the offseason following their second NFC East title in three years, with a 4-12 record in between:

PRESCOTT'S BACKUP: Romo is likely to be traded or released, and Mark Sanchez likely won't return after serving as the insurance policy following Romo's preseason back injury. Kellen Moore, who was No. 2 ahead of Prescott when he broke an ankle in training camp, is an unrestricted free agent but a favorite of offensive coordinator Scott Linehan.

OFFENSIVE CORNERSTONES: Prescott affirmed his status as the future starter by rallying Dallas from an 18-point deficit in the second quarter and from 15 down in the fourth against Green Bay. Prescott and Elliott have three years left on their rookie contracts—Prescott at an extreme discount for his position if his performance doesn't fade.

BLEEP BUTTON: Normally stoic coach Jason Garrett accidentally blurted out most of an expletive in his final news conference of the season Monday when he got a little excited talking about the competitive nature of Elliott, who debuted with 1,631 yards and 15 touchdowns. "I think we have a lot of young players on our football team, who we consider to be cornerstone,

foundational-type players," Garrett said later.

DEFENSIVE REINFORCEMENTS: Linebacker Jaylon Smith, the 2016 second-round pick who wasn't expected to play his rookie season after injuring a knee in his final game at Notre Dame, should finally get a chance to test the recovery. The Cowboys hope he's the middle linebacker of the future. Cornerback is a question again with Brandon Carr and Morris Claiborne going into free agency five years after Dallas acquired both.

OLD MAN WITTEN: Witten is entering the final year of the tight end's deal after finally catching his first postseason touchdown and figures to be back for a 15th season. "I'm proud of these guys," Witten said. "A lot of them are young. For them to play that way, it's not easy to do. There's a lot of things to build on moving forward."

COPSSA kicks off middle school caging tomorrow

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The middle school division games in the 2016-2017

Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League will begin tomorrow at the various courts of the participating schools.

Boys division defending champion Mt. Carmel School will start its bid for a second straight title against Grace Christian Academy. The Knights-Eagles tiff will be played at 3:30pm at the GCA court on Navy Hill.

Mt. Carmel won last season's championship after pulling off a 40-38 victory over Agape Christian School in the exciting finale.

Agape will also play in the opening day as it takes on Marianas Baptist Academy at the former's turf. One more match is scheduled in the kick-off day with Seventh Day Adventist facing Saipan International School at the SDA court. Saipan Community School has a team, too in the boys middle school division and it drew a bye on opening day.

Saipan Community will have its season-debut game on Jan. 24 against SIS at the Geckos court. Last year's fi-

nalists Mt. Carmel and Agape will have their early rematch next Tuesday with the Torch-bearers hosting the Knights in the 3:30pm match. SDA, on the other hand, will visit MBA at the Tigers' turf in Dandan,

while GCA got a bye in the second day of competition.

The seven participating teams will play in a double-round robin regular season which is scheduled to conclude on Feb. 24, weather per-

mitting. Playoffs will run from Feb. 28 to March 3 with the format has yet to be decided.

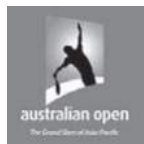
Meanwhile, only two teams are entered in the girls division—Mt. Carmel and SDA—and they would not be

playing until next month.

The Lady Knights will be looking for their third straight championship in the division. Their recent title conquest was against SIS as the Lady Knights eked out a 24-22

victory in overtime of last season's finale. Mt. Carmel's other championship was at the expense of GCA as the former coasted to a 28-12 finals win in the 2014-2015 season of the league.

Pursuing a record 23rd major title, Williams opens with win



MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Serena Williams is

choosing her moments carefully. Deep contemplation on her recent engagement, she says, can wait until after the Australian Open.

Equality? The time to make a statement is now.

After starting her quest for a record 23rd Grand Slam title with a 6-4, 6-3 first-round win over Belinda Bencic on Tuesday, Williams walked into her news conference wearing a black shirt with the word "Equality" printed across the front.

It was still before midnight Monday in the United States, near the end of the federal holiday in honor of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

"With today being Martin Luther King Day, it's important to spread the message of equality," Williams said. "Something he talked about a lot and he tried to spread a lot, is equality and rights for



United States' Serena Williams prepares to serve to Switzerland's Belinda Bencic during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017.

everyone."

Asked if she was concerned about the future of equality in the U.S., Williams declined to get into specifics but said the issue is "a concern for just everyone in general."

"We want to make sure we always continue to move forward and always have the opportunity to have equal rights for all."

Williams became engaged to Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian during the break, and he was in the crowd watching her play at Rod Laver Arena. She has been asked repeatedly about her wedding plans since arriving in Australia. She gave a clearer time frame for discussion on that.

"February I'll start looking

at the bigger picture of my life," she said. "But right now I'm just so focused that this is kind of all I can think about."

For five games in the second set, Serena Williams played almost flawless tennis. Then came the rustiness that tends to follow a lengthy layoff, giving Belinda Bencic a glimmer of hope.

Williams, after three double faults—including one on match point—and "some errors on key points," held on to improve her record in the first round of Grand Slam tournaments to 65-1.

Rafael Nadal, also on the comeback from a couple of months on the sidelines following the U.S. Open with an injured left wrist, had a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 win over Florian Mayer to go one better than he did last year in Australia. He was upset in the first round by fellow Spaniard Fernando Verdasco last year.

"Great. I'm happy to do an interview with you - last year, I didn't have the chance!" Nadal said in his on-court interview. "Very happy this year."

Third-seeded Milos Raonic, who reached the semifinals

in Australia last year and the final at Wimbledon, opened with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 win over Dustin Brown.

On a day when the temperature reached almost 38 Celsius (100 Fahrenheit), No. 11 David Goffin was pushed all the way before beating 19-year-old qualifier Reilly Opelka, making his Grand Slam debut, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

Also advancing were No. 8 Dominic Thiem, No. 13 Roberto Bautista Agut, No. 18 Richard Gasquet, No. 24 Alexander Zverev, No. 25 Gilles Simon, and No. 32 Philipp Kohlschreiber.

Two women who had breakout seasons in 2016, and opened this season with tournament titles, advanced in straight sets.

U.S. Open finalist Pliskova following her title win at the Brisbane International with a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Sara Sorribes Tormo. Johanna Konta, a surprise semifinalist in her debut at the Australian Open last year, won the Sydney International last week and opened at Melbourne Park with a 7-5, 6-2 win over Kirsten Flipkens.

SONICS

From Page 28

man, and Itaas found their targets early, lifting the Sonics to a 40-22 halftime advantage. The quartet drilled at least three field goals apiece in the first 20 minutes of play to hand the Sonics the 18-point lead. Ordonia then kept going in the second half, wrapping up the final frame by scoring the Sonics' last 5 markers to complete their domination of Gen Cup.

John Paul Cruz, as usual, paced Gen Cup with his 17 points.

Meanwhile, the Ol'Aces 2 and IT&E also cruised past their respective foes.

In the U25 division game,

the Ol'Aces 2 showed no love lost to sister squad Ol'Aces 1 after coasting to a 69-52 win.

The Ol'Aces 2 now has a 2-1 record for second place in the division behind Rollers 1 (2-0), while the Ol'Aces 1 fell to a 1-2 card.

Dave Camacho had 16 markers from the Ol'Aces 2, which got at least 7 points apiece from five other players to easily beat the Ol'Aces 1. R.J. Paragados and N-Nes Siech tallied 10 markers each for the Ol'Aces 1.

In the women's division game, IT&E bagged its second straight win after losing its debut following a 51-23 triumph over Jingle Ballers (2-2).

Jan Travilla and Karleen Reyes teamed up for nearly

half of IT&E's output with the former making 13 and the latter chipping in 9 to power their squad to the 28-point victory.

The two Mt. Carmel School standouts also drew enough help from their teammates with Jennifer Villagomez registering 7 points and Janika Taimanao and Kye Tam scoring 6 apiece.

U16 DIVISION

Sonics 79 – Ordonia 18, Itaas 13, Cadag 10, Sabangan 10, De Guzman 10, Apasan 8, Ejercito 4, Dionisio 2, Bayot 2.

Gen Cup 47 – Cruz 17, Elchico 15, Zhao 9, Ocaya 4, Cai 2.

Scoring by halves: 40-22, 79-47.

spectively. Michael Mamaril paced the winless Triple J (0-2) with his 23 markers, while Inos contributed 17.

In the first game, TanHoldings' offensive firepower proved too be too much for Best Deal/RNV.

TanHoldings sizzled for 35 points right from the get-go to double up RNV after the first quarter, 35-17. With Douglas Schmidt and Ernest and Matt Duenas on fire as usual coupled with Jarett Matsutaro's good shooting, TanHoldings never relinquished the big lead in the

last three periods to hand Best Deal/RNV (0-2) a beating.

Schmidt registered 26 points, while Matt tallied 22, and Matsutaro and Ernest added 18 and 14, respectively. Andy Mortos, who had 30 points in their 65-80 loss to McDonald's last week, again led Best Deal/RNV after recording 28 markers.

First Game

TanHoldings 101 – Schmidt 26, M. Duenas 22, Matsutaro 18, E. Duenas 14, Demapan 7, Villamena 4, Ma-

U25 DIVISION

Ol'Aces 2 69 – Camacho 16, Sakisat 9, Quan 8, Palino 8, Andrew 7, Tenorio 7, Olopai 4, Nakashima 2, Moses 2, Atan 2, Tadeo 2.

Ol'Aces 1 51 – Paragados 10, Siech 10, Ngirarois 9, Castillo 7, Blake 6, Onopwy 5, Castro 4.

Scoring by halves: 30-21, 69-51.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

IT&E 51 – Travilla 13, Reyes 9, J. Villagomez 7, Taimanao 6, Tam 6, G. Villagomez 4, Borja 2.

Jingle Ballers 23 – Duenas 9, Hayag 6, D. Camacho 3, Surima 2, Kenty 2, Francisco 1.

Scoring by halves: 26-15, 51-23.

coto 4, Pablo 4, Quizon 2.

Best Deal/RNV 72 – Mortos 28, Rueda 16, Corong 9, Baul 8, Jumaquio 6, Alfonso 2, Cayanan 2, Odicta 1.

Scoring by quarters: 35-17, 53-29, 78-48, 101-72.

Second Game

CUC 76 – Manglona 27, Santos 15, Lieto 12, Spaeth 7, Mira 6, Pestillos 6, Simada 3.

Triple J 66 – Mamaril 23, Inos 17, Palacios 8, Medina 6, Oris 6, Ololapi 4, Jarabe 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-13, 33-28, 53-44, 76-66.

TENORIO

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old PBT of 2:50.06.

Five other Tsunami Saipan swimmers did the 200m IM with Nelson Batallones recorded the second best time in the group behind Tenorio. Batallones clocked in at 2:46.05 to beat his previous PBT of 2:54.76. Isaiah Aleksenko also set a new PBT after logging 2:51.63, which is more than seven second faster than his old mark (2:59.04).

Sean Gil eclipsed his old PBT (3:44.01) by almost 10 seconds after touching the wall at the 3:34.91 mark, while Hans Xu finished the race earlier with his 3:07.17, but did not surpass his PBT (3:05.76). Eight-year-old Kouki Watanabe swam his first competitive 200m IM and broke the four-second barrier after posting 3:57.14.

Meanwhile, more Tsunami Saipan swimmers earned PBTs in their first meet of the year and complete results of the Jan. 7 tournament will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Thursday edition.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
NBA STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	27	13	.675	—
Boston	26	15	.634	1½
New York	18	24	.429	10
Philadelphia	13	26	.333	13½
Brooklyn	8	32	.200	19
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	24	17	.585	—
Washington	21	19	.525	2½
Charlotte	20	21	.488	4
Orlando	17	26	.395	8
Miami	11	30	.268	13
Central Division				
Cleveland	29	11	.725	—
Indiana	21	19	.525	8
Milwaukee	20	20	.500	9
Chicago	21	21	.500	9
Detroit	19	24	.442	11½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	31	9	.775	—
Houston	32	11	.744	½
Memphis	25	18	.581	7½
New Orleans	16	26	.381	16
Dallas	13	27	.325	18
Northwest Division				
Utah	27	16	.628	—
Oklahoma City	25	18	.581	2
Portland	18	25	.419	9
Denver	16	23	.410	9
Minnesota	14	27	.341	12
Pacific Division				
Golden State	35	6	.854	—
L.A. Clippers	29	14	.674	7
Sacramento	16	24	.400	18½
L.A. Lakers	15	30	.333	22
Phoenix	13	28	.317	22
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

TWO

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Fortunately, CUC kept the lead and the win after holding Triple J scoreless in the last 2:33 of the match. Five straight points from Robert Lieto brought order back to CUC and Iramk Simada capped the winning team's strong finish with a triple for the twin-digit margin.

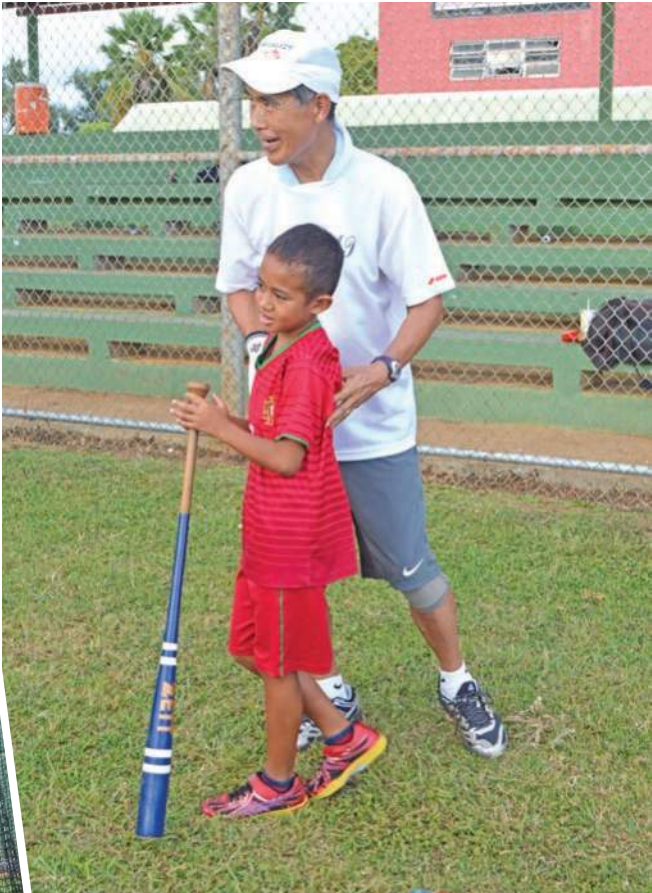
Eugene Manglona top-scored for CUC with his 28 points, while John Santos and Lieto chipped in 15 and 12, re-

Japanese Pro Baseball Clinic

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Saipan players and Japanese Consul Toshio Matsumura, fifth left second row, pose with the baseball pros from Japan's Nippon Professional Baseball after the short clinic at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield last Sunday.



Japanese Consul Toshio Matsumura encourages a young player to try a drill.



Dai Podziewski follows through his swing during a batting drill.



A Japanese pro baseball player demonstrates the proper stance when batting.



Virgil Secharmidal swings during a batting drill.



A Japanese pro baseball player throws the ball to a Saipan player during a batting drill.



Saipan Baseball League's Tony Rogolifo, left, talks to a young player while waiting for the next drill in the clinic.



Taishi Ohta, second left, through an interpreter, talks to Saipan players after conducting a clinic with his fellow pros.



Warriors rout
defending champion
Cavaliers 126-91 in
rematch
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vulgar description
of Patriots
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Tenorio owns 2 age group marks

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan's Juhn Tenorio started the year with record-breaking swims during the Northern Mariana Island Swimming Federation Meet 4 held early this month at the Kan Pacific Swim-


Northern Mariana Islands
Swimming Federation
Swimming Pool.

Tenorio earned his first record in the Jan. 7 tournament—the first for NMISF in 2017—via the 100m backstroke race in the 11 to 12 age group after clocking in at 1:13.67. His time surpassed the 1:15.52 former Tsunami Saipan swimmer Kaito Yanai registered on Feb. 18, 2012. Tenorio's record was also more than four seconds faster than her old personal best time of 1:17.85.

The Tsunami Saipan swimmer's other age group mark came from another backstroke event—50m. He finished the one-lap race in 33.14 seconds, breaking his own record (33.56 seconds), which he established on Dec. 3 last year during the NMISF Meet 3. Tenorio's time in last month's event shattered one of the oldest marks in the CNMI swim record books—the 34.44 seconds Joshua Titano posted on May 7, 1994.

Meanwhile, beside the 50m and 100m backstroke events, Tenorio also joined the 200m individual medley event of the NMISF Meet 4. He completed the four-lap race in 2:45.74, chopping off nearly five seconds from his

See **TENORIO** on **Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio stretches before plunging into the pool for the 50m backstroke event in the NMISF Swim Meet 3 held last month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The 670 Sonics' Rafael Ordon looks to kick the ball out as he runs out of space after driving to the baseline against an O'Acres 2 defender during an earlier game in the U16 division of the TanHoldings holiday caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Sonics extend streak, near sweep

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 670 Sonics are a win away from sweeping the elimination round of the 2016 TanHoldings Christmas Basketball Tournament



The Sonics first crushed Gen Cup in their boys U16 division game last Saturday, 79-47, before thumping sister squad 670 Thunder last Monday, 59-28, to improve their record to 6-0. The Zachariah Johnson-coached 670 Sonics, who are already

assured of one of the four playoff berths in the division, will go for the sweep when they challenge the second-running Rollers 1 (4-1) this Saturday.

Five Sonics players scored in double figures in their 32-point win against Gen Cup (1-3) last weekend. Rafael Ordon led the way for the division leaders after recording 18 points, while Khristian Itaas contributed 13, and Paulo Cadag, Bryan De Guzman, and Champ Sabangan chipped in 10 each.

Ordon, Cadag, De Guzman

See **SONICS** on **Page 26**

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and TanHoldings booked their second win in the 2017 JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League after topping their respective opponents last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

TanHoldings, which came from a 118-63 rout of GPPC during the league's opening match, picked up where it left off with another lopsided victory against Best Deal/RNV Construction, 101-72. With its 2-0 mark, TanHoldings now share the Pool A lead with



CUC, which downed Triple J, 76-66, in last weekend's second tiff.

CUC withstood Triple J's rally in the end to remain unbeaten and join TanHoldings on top of the team standings in their group. CUC once led by double digits, 55-44, early in the fourth, but saw its advantage trimmed down to 4, 66-70, after Triple J forward Perry Inos completed a 3-point play.

See **TWO** on **Page 26**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s John Santos, left, reaches in to tap the ball away from Triple J's Michael Mamaril during the third quarter of their game in the JEM/Mobil caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.